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Publications

Vol. XIV.

TWO CARTULARIES

OF THE

BENEDICTINE ABBEYS

OF

MUCHELNEY AND ATHELNEY

IN THE

COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

EDITED BY

THE REV. E. H. BATES, M.A.

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The Cartulary.

THE Cartulary of Muchelney Abbey now printed, was recently discovered at Savernake Park, and is the property of the Marquis of Ailesbury, who has kindly allowed its contents to be made known. With it was found an original charter of King Ethelred the Unready, which forms the frontispiece of the volume. The latest deed in the cartulary proper is dated 1282, and the book seems to have been compiled soon after, early in the fourteenth century. The later additions comprise two very early charters, a sprinkling of fourteenth century deeds, and one dated in 1445. Sir C. H. Maxwell Lyte has supplied this collation: A quarto volume of parchment. Preliminary leaves: fol. 1–5, belong to an old Service book. f. 6. Copies of deeds relating to Estmore 1266, and Berdham 1277. f. 6b–7, table of contents of the Cartulary from folio 7 to folio 60 of the old enumeration, *i.e.*, from after the copy of Edgar's charter. f. 7b, confirmation of a charter of Richard Rivel the elder of two parts of the military service and three "ringe" of wheat and a sextary of honey for the manor of Dunheved. (These are numbers 107–110 in the schedule appended.) The eighth leaf of the volume is the first leaf of the original cartulary. In the upper margin there is a monogram made up of the letters ES, *i.e.*, Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford, son of the Protector Somerset; and "Hertford . 12° Aprilis 1570." The original paging extends to 63. On the reverse of folio 63 begin the additions in later hands, the first being the "Bounds of Kyngsbury," No. 111 fol. 65 is blank. There are nine leaves of additions after that.

At the dissolution the Cartulary accompanied the Abbey to its new owner the Protector Somerset, and was deposited at Savernake Park. At the close of the seventeenth century the elder line of Seymour died out, when the property came to Elizabeth wife of Thomas, Earl of Ailesbury, whose descendant

was raised to the marquisate. Muchelney now belongs to the Long family, but the Cartulary being overlooked, was allowed to remain in the muniment room of Savernake down to the present day.

On the first discovery of the volume it was at once considered that it must be one of the two very ancient parchment books mentioned by Hearne (see Appendix), as being lent to him by Lord Charles Bruce, son of Thomas Earl of Ailesbury and Elizabeth Seymour. But it is impossible to suppose that Hearne could have overlooked the early charters; and besides, his extracts, with hardly a single exception, do not appear in the cartulary; so it is evident that the Cartulary has never been utilised for the history of the abbey.

The Rev. T. Hugo wrote a history of Muchelney (printed in *Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. S. Proc.*, viii, pt. 2), but from lack of material his account was necessarily sketchy. In the following pages and in the notes on the different charters I have endeavoured to bring out the principal additions to the history brought to light by the new discovery; but a dweller in the country if "procul a negotiis," is also "procul a bibliothecis," to such an extent as to seriously handicap any efforts to explore the fields of literature. Previous editors of the Monastic Cartularies issued by the Society have already treated of various matters common to all such institutions, and to them the reader is referred for further details. The subscribers are greatly indebted to Mr. W. H. Stevenson of Exeter Coll. Oxford, who kindly edited the early charters, a task for which I was not competent.

History of the Abbey.

The feelings of pleasure with which the Cartulary was greeted have been changed to dismay by the pronouncement of Mr. Stevenson that barely one of the ancient charters is altogether free from suspicion of being a forgery. His reasons are given in the notes, and, founded as they are on an exhaustive comparison of the contents of other cartularies, must be deemed for the present purpose beyond dispute.

It is not difficult to see why King Ine might have been pitched upon as the founder of the abbey. In the words of Professor Freeman, "He stands out as one of the most famous names in the early history of the English people. In the history of his own West-Saxon kingdom, above all in the history of Somerset, the place which he holds is higher still." In the deluge of the Norman Conquest only the greatest names, Alfred, Edgar, Edward, have remained as it were visible to the popular mind, but in early days Ine's name and fame must have been as great as these.

If the monks of Muchelney forged charters, not so much to obtain that which was not their own, as to show a legal title to that of which legal chicanery would fain deprive them; the Canons of Wells also had a tradition that Ine had been the first to select their home as a centre of religion for the district.

Again if the charters of Ine and his subjects are to be rejected, so also is the one remaining charter of King Athelstan, to whom the credit of founding the abbey is also assigned. So far as one may be permitted to rely on any statement relating to those times, King Ine's reason in founding an abbey was the same as directed his division of the great bishopric of Wessex, and the selection of Sherborne as a bishop's town, the good of his people. The reason generally assigned for Athelstan's motive is remorse for fratricide, though a more charitable and

probably better one in every way is that of gratitude for the great victory at Brunanburgh in 937; when

> "Athelstan King, Lord among Earls,
> Bracelet-bestower, and Baron of Barons,
> Gaining a life-long glory in battle,
> Slew with the sword-edge there by Brunanburgh."

The one early charter that seems to be genuine, or rather to be derived from a genuine original is No. 6, a grant by King Kynewulf in 762 of certain lands between the Ile and the Earn. This latter stream is probably the now nameless rivulet which descending from the hills round Staple Fitzpaine joins the Ile below Earnshill.

But of course if Kynwulf gives lands to the abbey as a going concern in 762, it cannot have been founded by Alfred or his grandson Athelstan, a century or more later. It must be remembered that the hand of the Dane was very heavy in these parts. While Athelney afforded a refuge to the king, the host was plundering in every direction, and Glastonbury itself was burnt. A similar destruction of Muchelney Abbey and all its contents seems inevitable. The loss of the charters might not be felt at the time, but after the second Danish invasion and the Norman Conquest the want of authentic evidences would naturally lead to the concoction or production of suitable documents. Having once been admitted as genuine, they found their way into the Cartulary at a date when no one even in the abbey would have had the slightest idea that they were not what they purported to be.

So it does not seem by any means improbable that the original foundation of Muchelney Abbey is really due to King Ine in the early part of the eighth century.

Ine came to the throne of Wessex in 688. The English conquest of Somerset was barely complete. After the fall of Bath in 577 there seems to have been a pause until 652 when Kenwalk fought with the Britons at Bradford on Avon. This victory was shortly after followed by another at Pen when the Britons were driven out of East Somerset to the river Parrett. In 682 Kenwalk's successor Kentwin, drove the Britons to the sea, gaining the vallies of the Ile and the Tone. In 722 the frontier town of Taunton was destroyed by Ethelburh, Ine's Queen, apparently to prevent it falling into the hands of the

Britons and rebel English. It may have been built by Ine himself after his victory over Gerent in 710. But the point is that by the middle of Ine's reign the valley of the Ile was no longer on the borderland between the contending peoples, and therefore a suitable place for a monastery.

Now as Freeman, speaking of the ecclesiastical events of this reign, says: "It was in fact one of the most flourishing periods of the ancient English church. The zeal of Kings and Bishops had still somewhat of the fervour of new conversion about it." Men who had been baptized by Birinus, the apostle of the West Saxons, might have witnessed charters of King Ine. The great ecclesiastical event of Ine's reign was the foundation of Sherborne bishopric in 705. "But it is hard to trace out anything in detail as to the other ecclesiastical works of Ine, because nearly all the charters which profess to contain the records of these works are held by the best scholars to be spurious." Freeman was then thinking most of all of the mass of charters professing to be grants of Ine and of his contemporaries in favour of various West Saxon churches, and above all of the Abbey of Glastonbury. The extant charters of King Ine were described by the late Mr. J. B. Davidson in the *Som. Arch. Proc.* xxx, pt. ii. Of the eleven given by Kemble only two are admitted as genuine: one in favour of Malmesbury and another of Glastonbury. Not of course the famous or rather infamous "Magnum Privilegium," which would have made the Bishop an "outlander" in the greater part of his diocese, without rights and with heavy obligations. The very fact of so many charters being attributed to Ine evidences the strength of the tradition that he was in the habit of helping religious foundations.

Hence the tradition that he was the founder of Glastonbury, and of something not an abbey, not a bishopric, but still an ecclesiastical settlement at Wells. Hence also the tradition based on a submerged fact that he was the founder of Muchelney Abbey. In Somerset at this period there was as yet no monastic establishment of English foundation. Bath was in Mercia, Glastonbury the sole relic of British rule. Ine's friend and kinsman Ealdhelm had founded a monastery at Malmesbury in 680. So there is no improbability but rather everything in favour of Ine founding an abbey in the county of Somerset.

Even after the recovery of the Cartulary we are not in

possession of the actual charter of the donation of Muchelney with its adjacent islands of Thorney and Middleney.

This may also have included Drayton, which is first mentioned as a possession in Domesday. Charters Nos. 1 and 5 purport to be gifts of Ilminster and Ile, the latter apparently a royal confirmation of a portion of that manor. There are also the charters Nos. 105 and 106, purporting to be grants of fisheries in the Parrett. Still its beginnings were of a modest nature, and as late as the reign of Ethelred it is still styled a "monasteriolum."

The next charter in point of date is that of Kinwulf, No. 6 granting 8 cassates in Ile between the rivers Ile and Earn. This is the position of Ile Abbots, and its hidage *temp.* Domesday was 6½ hides. There is no mention of the earlier grant by Ine. The charter of King Edgar, No. 7, also condemned, raises the number of cassates to ten; and likewise makes no mention of any earlier grants.

The charter of King Athelstan, also condemned, would inform the world that he was the founder of the abbey; and this forged document is apparently the only authority. He did found Milton in Dorset, and may very well have refounded an abbey which, as I have said above, must needs have suffered greatly in the Danish invasions. The boundaries of the land, so far as they can be identified, are certainly genuine, and define the southern half of Curry Rivel very distinctly. The Bulstone seems to have been on the edge of the hill where the Langport and Ilminster high road dips down to Hambridge. It seems to have been on the strength of this charter that the abbot laid claim to lands and tithes in Curry in later times; but in Domesday no part of the donation is entered as belonging to the abbey.

The next king whose name is found in these charters is that of Edgar "the peaceful," under whom the West Saxon power reached its zenith. The one great event connecting Somerset with this reign is the King's coronation at Bath, Whitsunday, 973. As the reviver of monastic life in the land there would have been nothing surprising either in the gift of Ile or the confirmation of liberties, were it not that the two charters (Nos. 3 and 7) cannot be depended upon.

The last of the royal charters of this period is the confirmation of Ethelred the Unready in 995. In this case we not only

possess the copy in the cartulary, but the actual charter itself, which has accompanied the book in all its wanderings. A facsimile is prefixed to this volume as a frontispiece. The confirmation includes firstly, a restitution of Ilminster which at another date, in the term of three heirs had foolishly been taken away from the monastery; and secondly, a gift of Cantmeel, identified by the rubric as West Camel, which Leofric the abbot had purchased by outside aid.

The next document available for the history of the abbey is Domesday. The abbey then held Chipstable, Ilminster, Ile (Abbots), Cathanger (in Fivehead), Drayton, Camel, and the three islands of Muchelney, Middleney, and Thorney.

As only three of the number have any sort of a charter of donation, it will be seen what a very small number of deeds had come down from the early times to the date of the compilation of the Cartulary. Eyton would also include Puckington as a former possession of the abbey, though then held by Roger de Corcelle. But Domesday merely states that T.R.E. it was the land of S. Peter, without adding the name of the monastery; so it might just as well be S. Peter's of Athelney from which Roger had filched a portion of Long Sutton; or perhaps S. Peter's of Rome, to which city Ine had been a great benefactor.

There are no entries relating to Chipstable either in the cartulary or in Hearne's extracts.

The only other document relating to Muchelney at this period is the very valuable Old English charter (No. 26), concerning Harding FitzEdnoth and the land at Dillington. As Muchelney and Kingsbury Episcopi were neighbours, the monks probably preserved No. 111, delimiting the bounds of the latter to prevent any encroachment on the part of the Bishop's officials or tenants.

There is one scrap of history of this period relating to the Abbey, which would be of the greatest value if we knew more of the circumstances. It is given in William of Malmesbury's Tract, "De Antiquitate Glastoniæ Ecclesiæ." "De Abbatibus Muchelniæ et Athelingiæ. This business having been thus carried through at the instance of Abbot Thurstin, we will further relate with what success he claimed the neighbouring abbots of Muchelney and Athelney to be under his jurisdiction. For when Archbishop Lanfranc, by false information from Giso,

Bishop of Wells, sharply attacked them in a General Council of England, the Abbot of Muchelney, who was more versed in the ways of the world, replied that by command of the Abbot of Glastonbury he should reply in the chapter at that place, and that as for the rest he was not afraid of strange accusations. The Abbot of Athelney put the matter by with a jest, for when the Archbishop threatened to bring his staff upon him he replied that he cared not for that, because he had a better one, nor would he hand it over. Abbot Turstin being then ordered that if he knew himself to be ready, he should state his case, rose up in the place of judgment and urged many things, and (that) with a ready eloquence recalling from memory the Royal Privileges from Kentwin and Ine even to Edward, from which he alleged that no other person except the Abbot of Glastonbury had jurisdiction over these abbots, so much so that no man should enter these abbeys as abbot, unless he should have been elected by the Convent of Glastonbury. Then when the Archbishop, having communed with the King, had said that he was unwilling to lessen the nurse of the Blessed Dunstan, and he[1] had replied "and I to make sad the Mother of the Lord," yet that for the sake of future ages the Bishop of Wells ought to settle the matter in chapter at Glastonbury, he replied to the abbot's speech: If the privileges of his own church were genuine, that no person of whatever dignity was bound to come to Glastonbury for judgment; that all these were their own, even judgments both in ecclesiastical as well as in secular affairs; it might be that the unconquered prince and the holy archbishop in settling a new thing for ever might be influenced by envy. Finally, that which his predecessors had held undiminished, he would by no means allow to be lost, but in defending the dignity of his church would keep guard in the same spirit. Wherefore the Bishop of Wells, if he thought there was anything to put forward, he would at his command, not that of the Archbishop or the King, come to Glastonbury. What more is there to be said? The abbot obtained his cause. And the bishop attended the Chapter, but the abbots having disproved the case, the victory was lost, and he departed without glory."

The story of Abbot Thurstan (Turstin) placed at Glastonbury instead of the Saxon abbot, by William the Conqueror,

[1] This must be the Abbot of Muchelney.

and his violence towards the monks in 1083 is well known. That such a man should endeavour to extend his rule over the other Saxon monasteries in the neighbourhood is just what one might expect; while the affliction and ill-will of the monks would explain the desire of the Abbot of Muchelney to venture into what would otherwise be the lion's den, the Chapter at Glastonbury. Though Hugo hints at further efforts of the same nature, I have not found any record of them.

The next reference to Muchelney gives the name of the then abbot as Alan. He was a witness to Bishop Robert's foundation of Hewish in Brent marsh as a prebend in the church of Wells in 1159.

In 1166 when the King ordered returns to be made of all the knights' fees held by the Bishops and Barons, the Abbey of Muchelney certified that it possessed one knight's fee which was jointly held by Richard Rivel and Margaret, daughter of Ralph Tabuel.

In the Pipe Roll for 18 Hen. II (1171–2) Alexander de Luveigni renders an account of 36*s.* which he had received from the Abbey of Muchelney from the day of the Abbot's death to the feast of S. Michael; and in the next Roll he renders an account of 10*s.* 6*d.* The name of the deceased abbot is not mentioned, but it was probably the Alan abbot in 1159.

Soon after this date another abbot, Hugh, is found as witness to a charter of Rainer (Reginald) Bishop of Bath 1174–1196, confirming the monks of Montacute in their possessions. Another witness was Richard, the Dean of Wells, who was succeeded by Alexander in 1180, so the date of the charter must fall within the period 1174–1180.

In 1184–5, the abbot paid a fine of five marks for the wounding of William Puhier (Pipe Roll, 31 Hen. II). The abbot was probably paying for the excess of his servants.

In 1198 another abbot, Richard, is a witness to a charter of Bath Abbey dated 16 Kal. Nov. 1198 (S.R.S. vii, Lincoln's Inn MSS. 18 and *n.*). He seems to have held the office for a lengthy period, for during the first third of the thirteenth century, the abbot's name when given is always Richard, until in 1235 "on the death of R. late abbot," another Richard succeeded for the space of two years, from which date the list of abbots is complete and dated.

With the advent of Abbot Richard a stream of charters begins, which continues for eighty years, and supplies a multiplicity of details regarding the abbey and everything connected with it.

The earliest incident is Bishop Savaric's settlement of Ilminster as a prebend in the church of Wells, with the abbot as perpetual prebendary. (No. 12 in Cartulary.) This should be read in conjunction with the abbot's gift of Ilminster to S. Andrew. "Masses will be celebrated at Muchelney on the decease of a dean or precentor of Wells as for their own prior; on the decease of a bishop, as for their own abbot." The payment of the abbot's vicar at Wells, and a portion of Ilminster for the monks' kitchen are carefully provided for; but the vicar of Ilminster seems to have been overlooked; and his just claims were not allowed until 1268, by Charter No. 17.

There are nine dated charters within the period of Abbot Richard (I and II) besides several which though without date can by the mention of Abbot Richard be placed with them. They include gifts of rents in Dunpool and Ashwell in Ilminster, agreements for rendering royal service at Horton and Wicha in the same; and settlements of long standing disputes concerning Downhead in West Camel, and of another concerning rents in Cathanger. One might suppose that Abbot Richard was another Abbot Sampson of S. Edmondsbury immortalized by Carlyle. In addition to the difficulties with feudal tenants, there seems to have been an actual collision with King John, the result of which was disseisin of the abbot, and payment of a heavy fine before he could be replaced.

It will be noticed how many of these charters convey gifts of what one would expect to be already abbey property; and it is evident that the ownership of Ilminster, for example, had already become as regards much of the land simply an overlordship under which was rising up a real squirearchy: Loveney at Hilcombe, Dillington at that place, Horton of Horton. There are also references to the officers of the monastery, and to the infirmary.

Gifts of houses at Ilchester, Yeovil, and small parcels of land at East Camel, Marston Parva, besides wax and pepper, are of fairly frequent occurrence; but in the Cartulary there is only one gift of a whole manor: Braden Ivas or North Bradon now merged in Ile Brewers. A more questionable, though universal

method of enrichment by appropriating the rectories of the churches where advowsons were already possessed by the abbey, was made use of; and Bishop Joceline in 1239 handed over the rectories of Chipstable, Ile Abbotts and Fifhide to the Abbey (Ilminster having been previously made a prebend for the benefit of the abbot), reserving to himself the advowsons of the churches of West Camel and St. Mary Ilchester. The usual causes were alleged, poverty and a desire to exercise greater hospitality. Muchelney, with the chapel annexed of Drayton, was already in the hands of the abbey.

There is nothing beyond the ordinary run of incidents which may be studied in the charters themselves, until we come to the beginning of the reign of Edward I, and the great Assize of De quo Warranto. Every right of the abbey was challenged, and its victory at all points is evidence that it at least had not been encroaching on royal or private rights. As the records of these proceedings are, with the exception of the Anglo-Saxon Charters, the last entries in the Cartulary, we may well conclude that it was drawn up after the Abbot had had such practical evidence of the advantage of having charters preserved and in order. The two A.-S. deeds, (Nos. 105–106) were probably overlooked.

Perhaps in defending the rights of the abbey, the abbots had been a little slack in keeping the monks up to their duties, for after a Visitation in 1335 Bishop Ralph de Salopia had occasion to administer a very sharp rebuke to the abbot and convent 6 Id. July, 1335. The monastic rule had been completely set aside, and many and grievous delinquencies had been committed. If, as is very likely, the episcopal rebuke to an abbot of Muchelney given by Hugo was produced by the state of affairs, it is evident that the abbot's frequent and prolonged absence from his abbey was answerable for a great deal of the slackness among the monks. The date of the Visitation coincides with the vacancy caused by the death in June, 1334, of John de Henton, abbot for 31 years. Such a prolonged term of office would imply a great age for the abbot; and likely enough a weakened discipline during the latter part of it. If the state of affairs had become diocesan gossip, possibly the bishop may well have desired to assist the new Abbot John de Somerton in the difficult process of screwing matters up again.

John de Somerton evidently was a man of mark, and in favour with his diocesan. Hearne remarks: "He was of great name in his monastery, and also elsewhere." After his death, which must have occurred early in 1349, as his successor's election received the royal assent 29 May of that year, a perpetual chantry was founded in the chapel of S. Martin in the church of Wells by the Abbey of Muchelney, for the soul of John de Somerton, late abbot, and the whole convent. The first chaplain was presented by the abbey to the bishop, 15 April, 1350.[1] At the same time the bishop made over certain lands, &c., to the Prior and brethren of the Hospital of S. John in Wells to found a chantry there, and with the further condition that the said Hospital should pay six marks yearly to a chaplain to celebrate for the souls of the bishop, and of John de Somerton, formerly Abbot of Muchelney, at the altar of St. Martin in the cathedral. This chapel is in the south-east corner of the south transept. Among the Wells Cath. MSS. (p. 111) is a list of the ornaments pertaining to the chantry made 1377.

Soon after Somerton's election one of the monks, John de Worthy, must have fallen into dire disgrace, for he was to be shut up apart from the convent, though his diet was not affected by this solitary confinement, 11 Kal. Nov. 1338. He was still shut up in February of the next year, as on 18 Kal. Feb. 1338–39 the bishop inhibited the abbot and monks from holding conversation with him. His crime seems to have been that of the tongue.

1332, Dec. The bishop is found asking for a corrody on behalf of William le Iressch, gentleman. In the Close Rolls for 1309, 1317, 1328 will be found three instances of corrodies being demanded for royal servants: Richard Devenys, Thomas Prest, who succeeds to the corrody of Peter le Messager, deceased, and in 1328 John le Trentham, the king's harper, for the corrody of John le Fougheler. These individuals would hardly take kindly to the rules of the house; and the king's harper in particular might well perturb the minds of the younger brethren with his art and stories.

In the second half of the fourteenth century, the abbey obtained two more gifts. The first one, the manor of Downhead

[1] Reg. Ralph de Salopia, No. 2450.

in West Camel, is a striking example of the unseen influence under which a property which had once belonged to a religious establishment, no matter how long it may have been alienated, had a tendency to return to it. The parish of Camel seems to have been divided at a very early date, for in 1166 Downhead appears as a fief of the abbey held by military service by Richard Rivel and Margaret Tabuel. They parted with it before long to some other family, probably Fitzpayn, as in 1354 we find Downhead passing from Robert Fitzpayn on a journey which lands it back at Muchelney Abbey in 1358. The second gift is that of the church of Meryet. It was given by Sir John de Meryet to John de Harewell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Thomas Mount and John Waryn, clerics, their heirs and assigns, by his deed dated 8 Feb. 51 Edw. III (1376–7) entered on the Close Rolls 51 Ed. III, m. 19 dorso.[1] Bishop Harewell's Register being lost, we cannot tell the circumstances; but on 7th June, 1383, the bishop obtained licence for an alienation in mortmain of the said rectory to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, who are to give as security to the Dean and Chapter of Wells liberty to distrain on the manor of Drayton for 25 marks payable out of the said rectory, if the rent is in arrear. Two years later the bishop obtained a discharge of the rent on the ground that the church could not support such a payment.[2]

Hugo gives from the Records a list of places where the abbey held property (*op. cit.*, p. 81). In this there is a certain amount of confusion regarding the rectories. Hylecombe and Horton though styled such, were only parochial chapelries attached to Ilminster parish. Moreton I have been unable to identify, unless it be Moortown or Morton, a small manor in Swell, which is practically unnoticed in history.[3]

There is little to record concerning Muchelney during the fifteenth century, though towards the close of this period, the church and other portions of the abbey were rebuilt. The portions still standing are well known to most people. They consist of part of the domestic buildings generally known as the Abbot's Lodging, and adjoining thereto a portion of the cloisters running eastward. As the result of excavations made in

[1] Meriet of Meriet and Hestercombe, B. W. Greenfield; *Proc. Soc. and N. H. Soc.*, XXVIII, ii, 156.
[2] Pat. Rolls, 6 R. II, 7 June; 8 R. II, 1 June; printed copy.
[3] *Som. and Dors. N. and Q.*, II, 96.

1873–74 and described by the Rev. S. O. Baker, vicar of the parish, in *Som. Arch. Proc.*, XIX, pt. ii, the foundations of the church were laid bare, and much worked stone and other relics recovered, which may be seen, either *in situ*, within the walls of the parish church, or in the old vicarage at present used as a museum.

The domestic buildings were described by Mr. J. H. Parker as a very fine example of a wealthy gentleman's home about 1500, and nearly perfect.

The cloisters, or what is left of them, have been deprived of the vaulting of fan-tracery, which has been replaced by the beams and flooring of a small upper room. This he thought might have been the scriptorium or library, as it would hardly have been large enough for the dormitory. The outer wall of the cloister on the south side is richly panelled, "which is very uncommon; it seems to have formed one side of the abbot's court." Another opinion is that this formed the refectory, and that the present entrance into the house was the doorway leading from the abbot's quarters into the refectory.

The last scenes of the history of the abbey are now recoverable from the State Papers for the first time, so they are given in some detail.

The petition for leave to elect an abbot in the place of John Shirborne, resigned, is dated 28 Aug., 1532; and on 2 Sept. the royal assent was given to the election of Thomas Ynde as abbot (the last).[1] This spelling is the one adopted in the Calendar of State Papers with cross references to Ine, Inde, the earlier spelling Yve being discarded. It seems that there had been much opposition to his candidature.

On 11 June, 1532, Henry Thornton writes to Cromwell that he had received his letter dated 5 June from London, and the king's letter to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney. So soon as the resignation takes place the directions of his letter shall be performed. True it is that dan Thomas Ine is young in years, but oldest in wit and learning of his monastery. There are many among his elders who would fain be abbot, and make friends in these parts, as Sir Nicholas Wadham and others; and so by the obstinacy of two or three simple monks of the King's foundation, little regard shall be paid to the King's letter. "If

[1] State Papers of Henry VIII; Vol. V, No. 1370(11).

they are wilful, cleave the more to the poor monk you have begun withal." Bockland, 11 June, 24 Hen. VIII (1532).[1]

A few days later Thornton wrote another letter to Cromwell, wherein he desires to know how he may deserve his labours. "No creature living shall know what shall be done between you and me touching Muchelney. I hope that my good Lord Chief Justice will say something for my truth. Let one of your clerks write again that I may know your pleasure. I marvel where the fond monks have comfort, they are so full of cracks. If dan Ine obtain it, as I trust he shall, he will prove a good husband to the monastery."[2]

Thornton writes again on 12 July, 1532: "Touching the monastery of Muchelney, the wilful sort are by crafty means blended. Four of the monks are put in comfort to be abbot, and all their efforts are set against dan Thomas Ine; so that the bishop if he can, will make a monk of another place abbot there, *i.e.*, Glastonbury. Divers canons residing in the Cathedral church of Wells say that Ine shall never rejoise that room; but I do not fear them as I remember your promise. It is necessary that the King's letter should be speedily sent to the Bishop of Bath, with another from you before the doctor comes into these parts. Rather than I should fail, I had liever be where I shall be a thousand years hence. Bockland my poor house 12 July."[3]

On 13 August Thornton writes: "The time of Mr. Dr. Lee is being at Muchelney, he that is vicarie of the same parish is godfather to dan Thomas Ine. Much labour hath been made by various monks of the house, especially by dan John Michell, who would fain be abbot, and has so labored with the vicar that he now affirms that Ine is only 23 years old. The contrary can be proved by many in the parish of Ilminster, among them by Thomas Caslyn, his godfather, who are ready to be examined; who will state that at Xmas last he was 24 years old. If this matter fail it were no little discredit to me. As it might be no little trouble for Dr. Lee to return here, it might be as well for you to direct your letters to my Lord of Bath to admit his vicar-general as ordinary in these parts." Buckland, 13 August.[4]

[1] State Papers of Henry VIII; Vol. V, No. 1088.
[2] Ditto, No. 1089. [3] Ditto, No. 1167. [4] Ditto, No. 1225.

On 16 August another letter was despatched: "As touching dan Thomas Ine monk of Muchelney unless that your master cleeve according to my lowly and meek suit before this made unto you in his favour, he shall have so much wrong in such a matter as ever poor religious man had. He is 25 years old, which can be proved by a hundred besides the fourteen names I sent you. He was born in the parish of Ilmyster. Great labors are made in more ways than one, and perhaps with larger offers, the whole burden of which must in the end rest upon the monastery. There is none so able to be abbot there. To any greater offer that has been made to you for the King's profit or otherwise, I will equal the best. If Ine fails my credit will fail also."[1] And again in a similar strain: "If you knew in what fear I am of being shamed in the county touching the house of Mychelney, I think you would feel some remorse. Hither I have lived without shame in this County."[2]

On 19 August, 1532, was issued the *congé d'élire* to the prior and convent to elect an abbot in the place of John Shirborne the last abbot resigned.[3]

A letter from the abbot to Cromwell written after Thornton's death would have put the latter to open shame in the county if it could have been done. It seems that Sergeant Thornton had exacted 100*l.* from the newly elected abbot for the use of Cromwell, but though the executor acknowledged the receipt of this enormous sum, not one farthing had been paid over to Cromwell. Further, Thornton had put off Cromwell with the promise of 40*l.*, keeping the balance for himself, and if he had paid this promptly the trick might never have been discovered. His illness and death prevented the completion of his plan. Cromwell having applied by Dr. Lee for the promised fee of 40*l.*, the abbot sent an explanation of the whole matter to London. At the same time, as he evidently considered that the first fee had disappeared for good, he promises to give "a fee, besechyng you for a tyme to take hytt yn good worthe."[4]

[1] State Papers of Henry VIII; Vol. V, No. 1229.
[2] Ditto, No. 1230.
[3] Ditto, No. 1270.
[4] Ellis, *Orig. Letters*, 3rd Ser. II, p. 334. Quoted by Archbold, *Religious Houses*, p. 65.

The will of Henry Thornton was made on the 1st of April, 1533, and proved on the 22nd of the same month [2 Hogan P.C.C.]. There is no reference to Muchelney in it. Buckland is Mynchin Buckland where Thornton farmed the land of the Priory. He also held of them a tenement with its appurtenances, situated and lying in the parish of S. Clement Danes outside Temple Bar.[1]

The revenues of the abbey were valued at 447*l.* 4*s.* in 1534. On 2 July, 1534, Thomas Ynde, with Richard Coscob, prior, John Montacute, and eight others, subscribed to the king's supremacy.

Ynde having to find the money twice over, had no alternative but to pledge the plate of all kinds belonging to the monastery. The sums obtained, however, did not go, as has often been supposed, in raising the buildings which still stand.

There is no need to rely upon the report of the Visitation of the abbey made by Thomas Legh to believe that matters could not have been in a satisfactory condition. He came to Muchelney on the 3rd of January, 1537–8, and found an abbot negligent and of doubtful character, ten brethren ignorant and unlearned, no servants nor hospitality, debts to the amount of 400*l.*, besides fees, annuities, &c., amounting to 43*l.* 12*s.*, and hardly any moveables. The surrender was made in the presence of Sir Thomas Speke, John Sidenham, William Wittcombe, Nicholas Seger, John Southwood, LL.D., John Crosse, clerk, Thomas Philippes, and Robert Warmyngton, notary public.[2]

The actual deed of surrender is not now in existence, so the names of the monks cannot be recovered. In Cardinal Pole's Pension Book two names are mentioned: George More and John Plumber, each receiving 3*l.* In Vol. 248, Miscell. Books, Aug. Of., John Manfelde is entered as receiving a pension of 10*l.*, but Mr. Archbold doubts if he was a monk (pp. 135, 140).

[1] Hugo, Mynchin Buckland Priory, *Proc. S. A. and N. H. S.*, X, ii, 42.
[2] Letters and Papers, H. VIII, pt. i, 27, 42.

Abbots.

(693–725.) [Frody.] Mentioned in charters, (725), 5 (693), 105 (708). He must have been almost, if not indeed, the first abbot.

(762.) Edwald; charter 6.

(964.) [Alfwold]; charter 3.

(995.) Leofric; charter 4.

(1042–1066.) Liward; mentioned in Domesday under Ilminster as abbot T.R.E.

Eadwulf; *temp.* William the Conqueror: charter 126.

(1159.) Alan, witness to a charter of Robert, Bp. of Bath, making Hewish in Brent a prebend, dated 2 Non. Nov. 1159. Hugo gives the charter from Harleian MSS. 6968; but in the Report on the MSS. of Wells Cathedral (Hist. MSS. Commission), the abbot's name is omitted.

1172-3. The Pipe Rolls of 18-19 Henry II record a vacancy in the abbacy.

(1175–80.) Hugh, witness to a charter of Reginald, Bp. of Bath, which by internal evidence must be dated 1175–1180. S.R.S., viii, p. 192.

(1198.) Richard, witness to a charter of Bath Abbey dated 16 Kal. Nov. 1st year of the Pontificate of Pope Innocent III (1198), S.R.S. vii, Lincoln's Inn MS. 18, and *n.* He held the office until 1235 when another

1235. Richard was elected, on the death of R. late abbot. Patent Rolls, 19 Hen. III, p. 9.

1237. There was a vacancy again, which was filled up by the election of

1237 8. Walter de Cerne, party to a Ped. Fin. levied in the Octave of S. John Bapt. 22 Hen. III (June, 1238). His surname is given in charter No. 47.

1251. John de Barneville; the election of, received the royal assent 29 June, 1251. Pat. Roll, 36 Hen. III.

1274. William de Gyvele; the election of, received the royal assent 27 Sept. 1274.
1293. Ralph de Muchelney; the election of, received the royal assent 3 July, 1293.
1303. John de Henton; the election of, received the royal assent 1 March, 1303.
1334. John de Somerton; the election of, received the royal assent 8 July, 1334.
1349. Thomas de Overton; the election of, received the royal assent 29 May, 1349. Reg. Radulphi de Salopia, 2359 (S.R.S. x, 611). Hugo following Harl. MS. 6965 read the Christian name John.
1371. William de Shepton; the election of, received the royal assent 1 Dec. 1371.
1397. Nicholas Strotton; election of, received the royal assent 27 Feb. 1397.
1400. John Bruton, elected in Aug.
1433. John Cherde, elected 28 Apr. 1433. Died 10 Sept. 1463.
1463. Thomas Pipe, elected 20 Sept. 1463. Harl. MS. 6966, Hugo.
1465. William Crokehorne prior, election 23 July, Pat. Roll, 1465, p. 457 of printed copy.
1470. John Bracy, elected 7 April, 1470 (see Kalendar under April and June), died 16 May, 1489.
1489. William Wyke, elected 15 June, 1489. Harl. MS. 6966, p. 144, dead by 5 Oct. 1504, *v.* Harl. MS. 6967, fol. 3.
1505. Thomas Broke, elected 21 Jan.
1522. John Sherborne, confirmation of his election, after the death of T. B., 6 Nov. 1522. Resigned 19 Aug. 1532.
1532. Thomas Ynde (Inde, Ine, Ive), royal assent to the election, 2 Sept. 29 Hen. VIII.

Surrender of the Abbey, 3 Jan. 1537–8.

Extracts from Hearne's Adam of Domerham.

In the preface to his edition of the *History of Glastonbury*, by Adam of Domerham, Hearne made mention of the "chartophylacia" or charter-stores; and then proceeds (I give translation):—"But however in other respects the chartophylacium might differ from the monastic library, yet in the library itself there would be a good many charters, not only as separate manuscripts, but also bound up in volumes and that either at the beginning or the end. Books thus treated, the abbots often kept near themselves, particularly if they formed part of those used in the Divine Service, and were intended in the first place for the use of the abbots. Two books of this kind, the noble Lord Charles Bruce has in his possession, who in his great kindness lent to me [with the usual results] 'pro summa sua humanitate.' They both belonged to the monastery of Muchelney, regarding which place the Monasticon has hardly anything, nor has Stephen's continuation supplied the deficiency. Indeed in either book (and I certainly judge that they were both kept in the abbot's chamber), I found inserted some things relating to the monastery; a few of which (whatever I thought related to this topic, and which as yet had not been put forth), I have extracted and published, and another list of the famous men and abbots mentioned in the books, which I note for the benefit of those, who having obtained the notes of the very learned Hutton of Aynoe on our monasticism (in which he was very curious), expend oil and labour in making lists of abbots. And further I wish it to be noted that all the matters which we have placed within brackets were written not in the Bruce manuscripts but in sundry letters given to me by the very learned Chancellor of Norwich, Thomas Tanner; from whom also, as the press is ready, we have received the account

of the election of Richard Whiting to be abbot of Glastonbury. He sent this entirely of his own accord, and not because he was asked, and in return we are bound to give our most hearty thanks."

A List of some of the Abbots of Muchelney.

Richard ———. He occurs in 13 Henry III. I reckon him the younger than a certain R. mentioned in the Kenilworth Register, and in the letters sent to me by Tanner (see above), who flourished in the reign of Richard I. It is also uncertain if he be the same as the Richard mentioned in a charter at the end of one of the Bruce codices. [This charter is No. 129, among the additions to the original chartulary; Hearne's copy supplies the witnesses' names by means of which it must be dated before 1222; *see* note in cartulary post.]

As regards the other matters in this charter it must be left open to opinion, for at present I dare not settle the doubtful points.

Walter, A.D. 1248. Tanner does not inform us as to his surname. [Hearne for no other reason apparently than that the Bishop's name was Walter and that he had received an account of the proceedings, prints a letter dated from Wells, 30 March, 1727, concerning the discovery of the remains of Bishop Walter Button I.]

John de Hentone. He died 9 June, 1334, as appears from the calendar prefixed to the other codex of Lord Charles Bruce, extracts from which relating to our subject in hand, I have below picked out and set down, and added as is often the case in the Kalendar by another hand. His mother also appears in the Kalendar under the name of Alice de Burhentone. From which it is pretty plain that Henton and Burhentone were not in that age an unknown name. [Burhentone = Bower Hinton in Murtock.]

John de Somerton. He as Prior of this monastery is commemorated on 9 June, 1334, in which year he was certainly elected abbot. Our John of Somerton was of great name in his monastery, and also elsewhere.

Thomas de Overton. He is first commemorated on the Thursday on the morrow of the Festival, apostles SS. Symon and Jude 1353. The latest date on which I find him mentioned

in these books is on Sunday after the feast of S. Barnabas, 1359. I gather from Tanner's letters that it also occurs in old *monuments* 1368 (? manuscripts).

WILLIAM DE SHEPTON.

JOHN BRUTON.

JOHN CHERDE. He was also canon of the cathedral church of Wells and prebendary of Ilmystre or Ilemynstre in the said church.

WILLIAM CRUKERNE or CROKERNE.

JOHN, surname unknown, is commemorated as abbot on 11 April, 1474, at which time he was visitor of the monasteries of S. Benedict in the dioceses of Bath and Wells and Exeter, by power granted to him in a General Chapter held at Northampton. There is also mention of the same abbot on 26 June in this year when by reason of severe illness which had seriously affected him, he desired that as at the chapter to be held at Northampton on 4 July prox., he could not personally appear, he might for that reason appoint John Sylbey, a monk of Glastonbury, as his proctor. I do not know in what year he died.

WILLIAM is commemorated on 23 April, 1485, at which time he was visitor of Glastonbury and the other abbeys of the order of S. Benedict in the dioceses of Bath and Wells and Exeter, that power having been granted to him at the last General Chapter held at Northampton. At this Visitation he exhibited the articles given below. He is, if I mistake not, that William Wykes, Wykys, Wyke or Wike so often mentioned in the Bruce codices, first of all on 1 Oct. 1490, and lastly on 12 March, 1503. So he is probably that William who on 23 June, 1495 broken down by age and affected by diverse and constant infirmities and many other results of old age (so he testifies of himself), appointed and constituted John Scherborne of the same order and monastery, his proctor in the provincial chapter of the black monks of S. Benedict held on 6 July in that year at Northampton. He was elected abbot 15 June, and installed 5 July, according to the Kalendar, which however omits the year.

THOMAS as abbot occurs on 30 Oct. and 18 Dec. 1517. His surname was Broke according to the letters of Tanner, who has also made me certain that he succeeded William Wyke in 1504. He died 1522.

JOHN SCHERBORNE was elected abbot 5 Oct., and installed 8 Nov. 1522. He had been prior 23 April, 1502.

THOMAS YVE, A.D. 1534.

Besides these the names of John Bracy and William de Gyule occur as abbots in the Bruce codices, but there is no mention of the years or of the reigns when they flourished. John Bracy might possibly be that John whom we have mentioned above in 1474. And yet I fear much that it might be someone else, but I dare say nothing positively. [He was John Bracy.]

Although we have reckoned up so many abbots, yet to-day there are no literary remains of any of them that I know of, except the sacred hymn called Te Deum, altered by John Bracey in this fashion which I found at the beginning of one of the Bruce codices. [The Colophon explains that this version of the Te Deum was made by the venerable lord John Bracy Abbot of Muchelney in honour of Saint Mary. It is curious as an example of Mariolatry, but since this does not concern Muchelney, I have omitted it.]

This preface was written on 26 May, 1727.

Some extracts relating to the monastery of Muchelney in Somerset taken from two old parchment manuscript Breviaries in the possession of the most noble Lord Charles Bruce.[1]

1. Taxation of the spirituals and temporals of the abbey of Muchelney. It includes the church of Meryeth which was given in 1377.

The total amount is 110*l.* 10*s.* In 1444 the revenues were valued at 97*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*; and in 1534 at 447*l.* 5*s.*[2] So this taxation was probably made about the middle of the fifteenth century.

To this taxation is added an extract from Domesday relating to the possessions of the abbey in Muchelney and Ilminster.

2. Articles or enquiries which the visitors of the monasteries are to make. These are noted by Hugo (*op. cit.*), who concerning them quotes the judgment of the penitentiary Arnulf: "Si diabolus fuisset incarnatus, non invenisset subtiliorem et fortiorem laqueum ad illaqueandas animas, quam fuit ista

[1] Hearne, Adam de D., i, LXVII.
[2] Archer quoted by Collinson, iii, 136.

visitatio": "The very devil incarnate could not have invented a more subtle and effective snare for the snaring of souls than was that visitation."

3. Licence from Edward III to Alexander de Westcammel, clerk, and William Derby, chaplain, to give the manor of Downhead in West Camel to the abbey of Muchelney.

4. Grant carrying out the provisions of the aforesaid licence. This grant is No. 134 in the Cartulary.

5. The complaint (*querela*) of the abbot of Muchelney made to the Chancellor concerning Kingsmore in Somerton, that after he had recovered his common of pasture in K., at the Iter of the Justices, the King had commanded the sheriff to keep him out of his rights.

6. Commission by King Edward (I) at the instance of Queen Eleanor to inquire into the matter.

7. Inquisition taken at Salisbury in the quinzaine of S. Hillary to inquire into the matter.

8. The pleadings of the abbot thereat, with the verdict of the jury in his favour; and judgment was so given at Westminster within one month of the Festival of the Purification, in the nineteenth year of Edward I.

9. Power of attorney granted to Ralph Gaillardi, clerk, by John de Somertone, abbot and the convent iv. Id. June, 1334.

10. Corrody granted by Abbot Thomas (most probably de Overton), successor to John de Somerton, to Ralph Drake the "cantor." He was to have five marks yearly from the manor of Camel, seven gallons of conventual beer and as many loaves of old bread (*le old mychys*) weekly, and a gown, and four waggon loads of wood to be taken from Ile Abbots, and hauled thence at the expense of the said Ralph. In return the said Ralph shall be present at the mass of the Blessed Virgin, and at High Mass on festal days, and the eves before (*profestis*) if there be any singing, and at capis,[1] and at vespers, unless he shall have leave, or be ill, or detained by any other great reason, and that he shall teach four boys and one monk to play on the organ (*pulsare organa*), and any other monk who may wish to apply himself to such study.

11. Presentation to Oliver, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by Abbot William Wykys of Stephen Biccombe, priest, to take the

[1] Query; contraction for "capitulis," *i.e.*, chapter.

place of William Bridgeman, deceased, chaplain of the chantry of S. Martin, founded in the cathedral church of Wells for the souls of Bishop Ralph de Shrewsbury and John de Somerton, late Abbot of Muchelney. Dated 5 March, 1499.

12. Composition of tithes and dues for the vicar of Muchelney 1308. Given in the Cartulary No. 128 (supplement).

13. Charter, dated on the Monday after the translation of S. Thomas (7 July) 24 Ed. III (1350), whereby John de Burton grants lands, rents and reversions, in Burton in the fee of Muchelney in the tithing of Drayton, in Bere, in Swelle, and in la More, to Yvo de Hambrugge, rector of Wynterbournewast and Richard Pours of Langport. Witnesses: Henry de Scoland, Walter de Walshe, Roger Trygel, Nicholas Gurdemure, Nicholas Baldwyne and others.

14. Directions for growing and making "wode."

15, 16. An "extent" of the moore called Whattmore, containing 1,510 acres, one-half of which belonged to the Earl of Salisbury, lord of the manor of Martock, and the other half to the abbey of Muchelney, made 43 E. III. (Much damaged by mice.)

17. A charter (also much damaged by mice) concerning some gifts to the church of Meryeth made by Hugo Pat . . . . . It is not dated, but the episcopal title is apparently of Bath only, and several witnesses occur in the early part of the thirteenth century; so it is probably Bishop Savaric and before 1193.

18. Another charter of endowment of Meriette by Nicholas de M. son of Hugh. This charter is also dilapidated, but Nicholas succeeded his father in 1236, and died in 1258.

19. An agreement between James de Kyngestone, rector of West Camel, and the convent concerning certain rights of common, dated at London fest. S. Gregory, Pope (12 March), 1304.

20. Extracts from the Kalendar which we made mention of in the Preface. [Only those items retained which refer to Muchelney.]

JANUARY.

7. Dedication of the greater church of Muchelney.
10. Cecilia de Beauchamp died, 1320.
24. Ralph Geffrey de Burhentone died, 1331.
28. Alice de Burhentone, mother of J. the abbot, died 1312.
30. Dedication of the church of Ilemynstre.

FEBRUARY.

3. Dedication at Ilton.
4. Dedication at Bere.
6. Dedication at Henton.
9. Lady Jane de Beauchamp died, 1327.
13. Ordination of the Chapel of Drayton.
16. Peter Myryet was professed [monk], 1531.
17. Dedication of Coririvel.

MARCH.

15. My sister died.
30. Celericus the priest, who gave Berstaple, died.

APRIL.

4. John Bracy, abbot of this place, "hîc fuit primus electus.
5. Robert Matheu of Middelnye died, 1316.
18. Dedication at Neuham.
19. William de Stanton died, 1311.
23. King Ethelred died, who gave Cammel.

MAY.

2. The battle of Tewkysbyry, 1470.
6. John de Ilemynstre, prior, died 1312.
13. Galfridus de Hentone died.

JUNE.

9. John de Henton, abbot, died 1333.
12. John Bracy, abbot, "hic fuit electus secundus."
13. William de Gyule, abbot, died.
15. "Dominus" Ralph de Middelnye died, 1363.
William Wykes was elected abbot.

JULY

5. William Wykes, abbot, was installed.
6. John Bracy, abbot, was installed.
King Yne died, who gave Ylymystre.

AUGUST.

3. Brother Thomas Whever de Lanport died "in capitulo."
15. John, father of John de Somerton, abbot, died.
25. Lord J. de Moyon died, 1330. And Lord Robert Fitzpayn died, 1315.
28. Lady Alianora, mother of Lord Hugh de Curtenay, died, 1329.

SEPTEMBER.

14. Lord Henry de Curtiaco, knight, died. [No doubt H. de Urtiaco, Lord of Curry Rivel, ob. 10 Sept.]
Obit of Brother Thomas de Henton.

OCTOBER.

10. John Scherborne was elected lord [abbot] 1522.

NOVEMBER.

5. Dedication of the oratory of S. Mary.
8. John Scherborne installed 1522.

DECEMBER.

2. The vicar of Muchelney died.
22. Obit of Elyas de Burhentone, clerk, 1317.

Muchelney.

Contents of Cartulary.

1. Carta Yny regis de Ileminstre, 725.
2. Carta Adthelstani regis de dimidio manerio de Curi (924–940).
3. Carta confirmationis Edgari regis, 964.
4. Carta confirmationis Ethelredi regis de Yleminstre et de Cammel, 995.
5. Carta Yny regis de Yle, 693.
6. Carta Kynwulf regis de terra apud Yle, 762.
7. Carta Edgari regis de terra apud Yle, 966.
8. Confirmation of Bishop Reginald of a pension from Somerton.
9. Confirmation of Bishop Savaric concerning the church of Somerton.
10. Confirmation of Bishop Joceline concerning the church of Somerton, 1239.
11. Composition between the Abbots of Muchelney and Athelney concerning the tithes of the King and Sir Henry de Erlege in Somerton, 1254.
12. Charter of Bishop Savaric concerning the Prebend of Ilminster, 1201.
13. Ordinance of Bishop Joceline concerning the churches of Yle, Cammel, Chippestaple, Fivehead, and S. Mary of Ilchester, 1239.
14. Charter of Gervase Ivaus to Hugh de Montsorel of his land at Bradon.
15. Charter of Hugh de Montsorel to S. Peter of Muchelney of Bradon Ivas, 1228.
16. Confirmation of above gift by Adam Ivas son of Gervase.
17. Taxation of the vicarage of Yleminstre, 1268.
18. Charter of Robert de la Wydelande concerning Cleyhanger.
19. Confirmation of Fulk de Cleyhangre.
20. Charter of Fulk de Monte Sorello concerning the aforesaid land.
21. Chirograph between the Lord Bishop and the abbot concerning a space next to the wall in the park of Drayton, 1279.
22. Ordinance concerning a private chapel at Stiveley, 1262.
23. Agreements between the abbot and the person of Curi Rivel concerning tithes &c. in Curi and Drayton, 1271.
24. Grant concerning an acre of land given in endowment of Drayton.
25. Agreement between the Templars and the abbot concerning Wattemore and Prestemore, 1338.
26. Chirograph of Walter de la Lade concerning common of pasture in la Lade, 1344.
27. Charter of Cristina de Wyke concerning land in Horton, and royal service at Wicha and grant of la Sex 1269.

28. Charter of Richard Revel, jun., concerning service of one knight at Downhead, 1214.
29. Final concord between Abbot Richard and R. Rivel, 1211.
30. Charter of R. Revel, jun., concerning 3 acres in Pulmede, 1220.
31. Charter of Richard Revel concerning payment of 1 marc from Andresdeya, 1215.
32. Letters testimonial of Richard Revel concerning this payment, 1221.
33. Charter of Richard de Wrotham concerning land in Cathanger.
34. Final concord concerning the same, 1218.
35. Charter of Geoffrey de Scoyland concerning the same, 1268.
36. Final concord concerning the same, 1268.
37. Charter of Richard le Bule concerning 3*s.* rent in Andredeshie in Curry Rivel.
38. Charter of Geoffrey de S. Claro concerning 9 acres in Somerton.
39. Charter of Robert de S. Claro, with confirmation by Robert de S. Claro his grandson, of a right of way in Stapleton, 1239.
40. Charter of Robert de S. Claro concerning 1 lb. wax for his tenement at La Hamma.
41. Charter of Roger Prior and Constance de Dunpolle his wife concerning 16*s.* in Dunpole.
42. Charter of Constance de Dunpole concerning 1 furlong of land, 1200.
43. Charter of Nicholas Punsot concerning land in Cammel Rumare, 1240.
44. Inspeximus and confirmation of No. 43 by Mabel de Atrum.
45. Release of suit of court for No. 43 by William de Cantilupe.
46. Charter of Henry Francke concerning lands in East Cammel (post 1277).
47. Charter of Sir William Haket concerning lands in Marston Parva, 1241.
48. Chirograph of Walter de Loveni concerning land of La Seo, 1262.
49. Charter of William de Montacute concerning his rent for Dungrave.
50. Charter of Henry de Urtiaco concerning the rights of his Hundreds of Abbedic and Bulestan.
51. Quitclaim by Henry de Cammel of all his land in Cammel.
52. Quitclaim by Roger de Horton of his right in Horton, 1244.
53. Quitclaim by W. Haket of a ditch between Marston and Cammel, 1241.
54. Charter of Ralph de Vaus concerning 2*s.* from Broadway.
55. Charter of Thomas de Bolonia concerning the said gift.
56. Charter of Faramus de Bolonia concerning method of payment.
57. Charter of Eustace de Deuolis concerning exchange of lands, 1225.
58. Charter of Robert de Foxcombe concerning 4*s.* from Ashwell, 1231.
59. Charter of John de Bremelham concerning land in Aswelle.
60. Seisin of the same, 1262.
61. Charter of Thos. de Albo Monasterio concerning rent due in Ile.
62. Chirograph of land in Horton granted to Robert de Brywis, 1263.
63. Charter of Ralph de Monte Sorello concerning land at Cleyhanger, 1257.
64. Charter of Will. de Sande confirming La Sea to Will. de Loveni, 1258.
65. Charter of Hugh de Aula of his common of pasture in Southmore, 1277.

66. Chirograph of Robert de Monte Sorello concerning suit of court at Ilminster, 1277.
67. Chirograph of N. Pyg concerning tenement in Western Hylecumbe, 1282.
68. Charter of John de Ylecombe of Blowehey to the abbey.
69. Chirograph of Symon de Hylecombe concerning lands at La Sea and Hortemeade.
70. Charter of Simon de Hylecombe concerning 2*s.* for remission of service in Hundred of Abbedike.
71. Chirograph of Simon de Hylecombe concerning grant of 3½ acres in Sea for remission of tithe, 1262.
72. Charter of Will. de Loveni concerning 1 acre in Trendelmede.
73. Final concord concerning pasture in Wike Perham, 1238.
74. Final concord concerning land in Fifehide, 1219.
75. Final concord concerning land in Burton, 1225.
76. Grant by Emma de Dilinton of 9 acres to the abbey.
77. Charter of Ralph de Monte Sorello concerning 1 lb. wax due from a moore.
78. Charter of Thos. de Cotes concerning 1 lb. wax due from Limberghe.
79. Confirmation of above by William his son.
80. Charter by William de Coker concerning 1 lb. wax due from a tenement in Yeovil.
81. Charter concerning 1 lb. wax due from Richard son of Hamon of Ilchester, 1226.
82. Charter concerning gift of 3*s.* rent by Thos. de Capres, lord of Hurste.
83. Acknowledgment by Peter de Norfolk tenant of the above rent.
84. Grant by Geva de Hurste of a tenement in Yeovil.
85. Charter of Ralph de Horsey concerning 2*s.* rent from Werham, 1274.
86. Charter of Richard de Waleys concerning 2 acres in Staweye, 1255.
87. Chirograph of Geoffrey de Scoylaunde concerning his anniversary.
88. Charter of G. Loreng concerning 1 lb. pepper.
89. Charter of Matilda Kotyn concerning 2 tenements in Ilchester.
90. Charter of Adam Galeys of the 2 tenements aforesaid to the abbey.
91. Charter of John de Molendino concerning land in Eswille in Ilminster.
92. Charter of Hugh Smith concerning half a burgage in Bridgewater.
93. Charter of William Dyer concerning the said half burgage.
94. Demise by John the abbot to H. Smith of the said half burgage.
95. Grant by the abbey of houses in Ilchester to Robert Brun, 1204.
96. Grant of said houses to Emma daughter of the said R. Brun, 1205.
97. Confirmation and Inspeximus by Ralph de Monte Sorello of the charter of Robert de la Wudelande, 1257.
98. Inquiry concerning advowson of rectory and vicarage of Somerton, 1280.
99. Inquiry concerning dues from the royal demesnes at Somerton, 1289.
100. Inquiry concerning Herdecote in Somerton, 1280.
101. Names of the knights chosen to make the inquiry.
102. Inquiry concerning Liberty of Muchelney Island, 1280.
103. Names of the knights chosen to make the inquiry.
104. Concerning markets and bridges at Ilminster, 1280.
105. Donation of Swynwere to Abbot Frode, 708.
106. Donation by King Yny of Athon, 702.

ADDITIONS.

107. Assignment of land to the Sacristy, 1266.
108. Assignment of land to the Kitchen, 1277.
109. Acknowledgment by Richard Revel, sen., of his service from Downhead, 1211.
110. Fealty by Henry de Urtiaco to Abbot Ralph, 1297.
111. Bounds of Kingsbury (Anglo-Saxon).
112. Memorandum concerning church, &c., of Somerton, written after 1280.
113. Letters patent of 23 Hen. VI granting 8 does from Nerechurch, 1445.
114. Copy of the order to the keepers of the forest.
115. Endowment of Wyke Chapel by Thomas de Parham, 1259.
116. Inspeximus of same by the Bishop.
117. List of tenants of the abbey, c. 1300.
118. Royal licence for the land of Horsy, 1290.
119. Royal licence concerning 100*s.* rent, 1332.
120. Royal licence concerning 34*s.* 11*d.*, portion of the above sum, 1332.
121. Record of a plea between the abbot and Richard de Dylington, 1341.
122. Record of adjournment of the suit, 1342.
123. Agreement between the abbot and the rector of Curry Rivel.
124. Agreement between the abbot and William de Loveny concerning land in Ilminster, 1298.
125. Grant by John de Erlehe of a crop of wheat, 1299.
126. Agreement concerning Dillington between Abbot Ealdolf and Harding Eadnothe's son, *temp.* William I.
127. Quitclaim by abbot to Simon to Gryndeham of his suit for Chelworthe, 1242.
128. Composition for the vicar of Muchelney, 1308.
129. Confirmation by abbot Richard to William de Loveny of his lands in Ilminster.
130. Final concord between Robert Fitzpayn and Walter de Thornhull concerning manor of Downhead, 1329.
131. Final concord between Robert Fitzpayn and Richard de Acton concerning the same, 1354.
132. Grant of same by Richard de Acton to Alex. le Clerk and Will. Derby, 1358.
133. Quitclaim of said manor by John de Somerton, 1358.
134. Grant of said manor by Clerk and Derby to Abbot Overton, 1358.
135. Memorandum concerning the Abbey woods in Neroche forest, 1301.
136. Concerning the manner of doing homage.
137. Latin form of absolution, and fragments.

CARTULARY

OF

MUCHELNEY ABBEY.

CARTULARY OF MUCHELNEY ABBEY.

fol. i. CARTA YNY REGIS DE YLEMINISTER.

1. [1]Siquidem salutaribus Christi instruamur[2] eloquiis amicos nobis de mammona inquitatis faciendos esse, qui nos in ęterna recipiant tabernacula.[3] Unde et ego Yny, rex Westsaxoni[e],[4] una cum conjuge mea Ethelberga, porciunculam terre, que nobis divina dispensacione collata est, Dei servorum mancipare usibus decrevimus, quo nobis amplior in hereditate justorum porcio tribuatur, terram videlicet que appellatur Yleminister XX manencium Frody abbati et Christi familie que in Mycleneya omnipotenti Domino voluntarie devocionis obsequium impendit liberali munificentia collatam cum concientia[5] ac consensu venerandi pontificis Fortheres, inconvulsa collacione donavimus possidendam, atque ut cercioribus documentis prefata concessio roboretur, propriis subscripcionibus ipsius donacionis titulum firmamus presentium quorum[6] testium infra subjectis annotacionibus jus testamenti plurimorum ratum stabileque curamus efficere indiciis. Si quis vero cujuslibet dignitatis vel potentie quovis deinceps tempore qualibet occasione hanc infringere tyrannica fretus presumpcione collacione temptaverit, sit a collegio catholice ecclesie separatus. Si quis vero pia preditus intencione hec probare ac defendere curaverit, amplificet Deus porcionem ejus in terra viventium.

Scripta est hec cartula hujus donacionis anno ab incarnacione Domini DCCºXXVº. Et hec sunt territoria—Erest on estewarde on Chelkwilles hevod. West þanene on catschaȝa. þanene bi wyrcruñe[7] on langelinch. þanene on douelish. þanene bi wyrcruñe on carsford. of carsford on witewey. þanene bi wyrcruñe on stikelcpaþe þanene on stonberninge. of stonberninge on dunneȝete. þanene on dunnepool. þanene on dungraf

þanene on red þorn. þanene on slap. þanene on eþynford. þanene on rith on ruȝeleȝe, þanene on caducburne on strim. þanne on manneswyþyȝ. þanene on dikedene ford on strim at eswelleschyt on yle. þanene on riht on landbrok on strim. on chelkwilles hefod. Hii sunt testes quorum inferius nomina caraxantur et apicibus literarum ad majorem confirmacionem subscribuntur. + Ego Forthere episcopus consensi et subscripsi + Ego Weldhere prefectus + Ego Bruta prefectus + Ego Adelard frater regine prefectus + Ego Adelherd prefectus + Ego Vmming prefectus.

Translation of Boundaries.

First eastwards to the head of Chalkwell (well=spring); thence west to Cat-shaw (shaw=wood); thence by the "wyrtruma"[7] to (the) long "linch"; thence to (the) Dowlish[8]; thence by (the) "wyrtruma"[7] to cressford; from cress-ford to (the) white way[9]; thence by the "wyrtruma" to (the) "stickle" path[10]; thence to "stonberninge"[11]; from "stonberninge" to Dunn's gate[12]; thence to Dunna's pool[13]; thence to Dunna's (?)[14] grove; thence to (the) red thorn; thence to (the) "slap"[15]; thence to "Ethyn" ford; thence by the brook to (the) rough[16] lea; thence to Caduc bourn; to the stream (?)[17]; thence to Man's worthy[18] (*i.e.*, farm); thence to dyke valley; forth[19] to the stream to where[20] Ashwell flows into (the) Ile; thence to the brook,[21] to the landbrook, to the stream, to the head of Chalkwell

[1] As the earliest West-Saxon royal charter that has come down to us in a contemporary hand is dated 778 (*Cartularium Saxonicum*, i, 314, *Brit. Museum Facs. of Ancient Charters*, ii, pl. 3), it is difficult to decide as to the authenticity of texts purporting to be copies of charters of earlier dates than that. There are numerous charters ascribed to Ine, who was rather a favourite of the forgers of charters, owing to his exemplary end; but the greater part of these bear unmistakeable marks of their spurious nature, and there is not one that is free from doubt. The present charter agrees, *mutatis mutandis*, with a charter ascribed to this king in the Glastonbury chartularies (*Cart. Sax.*, i, 210). These chartularies abound in clumsy and impudent forgeries, so much so that the occurrence in them of a formula is of itself sufficient to cast suspicions upon its authenticity. The proem of the present charter, as of the Glastonbury one just cited, is obviously abridged from one of King Æthelwulf of Wessex, dated 847, which is preserved in a contemporary charter (*Cart. Sax.*, ii, 33, *B. M. Facs.*, ii, pl. 30). The anathema and the blessing upon those who add to the gift are also founded upon formulæ of Æthelwulf that occur in the aforesaid charter. As this Æthelwulf proem was used in its unabridged form by the forger of a charter of Edgar to Winchester (*Cart. Sax.*, iii, 631), and of Edward the Confessor to

Evesham (*Cod. Diplom.*, iv, 130), it would seem that a genuine charter of Æthelwulf formed part of the stock in trade of the professional forgers of Old English charters. The witnesses of the present charter occur (with others) in a spurious Glastonbury charter (*Cod. Diplom.*, i, 89, *Cart. Sax.*, i, 209 note). The dating of charters by the era of the Incarnation at so early a date as this is unknown. On the whole we must conclude that this text, if not spurious, is open to very grave suspicion.

The language of the boundaries in all the charters is very corrupt. This arises in part from the conscious or unconscious modernising by the fourteenth century scribe of the chartulary, and in part from careless copying of the original.

[2] Read *instruimur*, as in *Cart. Sax.*, i, 210, ii, 33.

[3] Luke xvi, 9.

[4] *Westsaxoni* with the *i* altered, apparently, into *e*. The O.E. kings were called kings of their people, not kings of the land, and we should therefore expect here "West Saxonum," not "Westsaxonie."

[5] Read *conscientia*.

[6] Read *quoque*.

[7] Representing O.E. *wyrtruman*, dat. sing. of *wyrtruma*, literally "tree-root," but meaning, apparently, in boundaries the edge of a wood.

[8] A river-name, preserved in the name of the villages of East and West Dowlish. Other examples of the occurrence of this river-name may be found in the *Crawford Charters*, p. 63 (*Anecdota Oxoniensia*, Medieval Series).

[9] Assuming that "witewey" represents O.E. *hwitan weg*.

[10] "Stickle," O.E. *stıcol*, means "steep." This is recorded in the name of Sticklepath, in the parish of Combe St. Nicholas.

[11] This is difficult to explain. If it represents the man's name *Stānbeorn*, we should expect to find the gen. pl. *-inga* plus an acc., but as the name occurs twice, such an acc. must have been omitted twice, which is unlikely. If we could assume that the original had the plurals *-ingas*, in the first case, and *-ingum* in the second, there would be no difficulty in interpreting the name. It would mean "lands or possessions of Stānbeorn." But the readings of the MS. seem to point to *-ing* in the original. Unless the name is blundered in both cases, it cannot be connected with *beorg* "hill."

[12] *Dunne* represents regularly a later form of O.E. *Dunnan*, the gen. of the masc. name *Dunna* or of the fem. *Dunne*. This "Dunnan-geat" is preserved in the name of the parish of Donyatt. "Geat" usually means "gap."

[13] Recorded in Dunpole Farm.

[14] Assuming that Dungraf is copied for Dunnegraf.

[15] This may be the unrecorded O.E. form of "slope."

[16] "Rough," O.E. *rūh*, means in local names "woody," not cleared of trees or shrubs.

[17] *Strim* seems to represent O.E. *strēam*. It occurs again in the next line.

[18] Reading *wyrþig*.

[19] This may be "ford," but is probably copied from *forð*.

[20] "At Eswelleschyt" represents an O.E. *oð þæt Æscwylle scýt*, "up to where Ashwell (this name still survives) shoots" (*i.e.*, flows).

[21] This may be "to the right," but is probably miscopied for "rith."

fol. *id.* CARTA ADÞELSTANI REGIS DE DIMIDIO MANERIO DE CURI.

2. [1]In nomine Domini nostri Jhesu Christi. Ego Adþelstanus regnante Deo tocius Britannie rex ad monasterium Muchelnie [et] fratribus ibidem Deo servientibus in nostra communi terra que dicitur Curi ex omnibus rebus in animantibus, in silvis, in pascuis, in pratis, in capturis, nec non et in rebus quibusque minimis firma atque perpetua donacione facultatis nostre dimidietatem concedo. Sed et terram quinque mansarum in loco qui dicitur Stanweye et sextam mansam quam habuit laicus nomine Muda, huic supradicte ecclesie et fratribus ibi Deo servientibus ad ecclesiam quam erexi in honore sancti Petri primi apostolorum in perpetuam hereditatem libens impendo. Et hujus doni confirmacionem in hoc sancto evangelii volumine perstrinxi ut nemo successorum nostrorum audaciter livore perculsus ex omnibus vel aliquid ab hoc cenobio arripere audeat. Quod si aliquis, ut non optamus, presumptive fecerit hujus insania sacri voluminis adhibicione hujus deterreatur, et si non adquieverit rogamus Deum ut illius hic dies brevientur, et eterne sibi dampnacionis tempora sine refrigerio atque divine miseracionis optentu prestentur. Sit autem predicta terra in insulis libera ab omni mundiali obstaculo.

Þis syndon þa lang meare to Curi. þe adþelstan Kyng. ȝef criste to lofe ⁊ sancte Petre. in to Muchelnie for hys yldrena sapla. ⁊ for hys sapla. ⁊ for ealra þara Kyngena. þe after hym were þat ys erost of Pederedan. on aþlongabiȝ of athlangabiȝ on þene lypston of þan lypstane on þa stankestlas ant spa þanne on spedeway. of spedeweȝe on bulestan of bulanstane on ilestream. of ilestreame on þa Haran apoldran. ⁊ spa þanon of þaere Haran apoldran· on þone docc þyfel. of þam docc þyfele· on pedan maede· ⁊ spa and laȝ more on hrocabeara· of hrocabeara on þone pol· of þam pole on eastheal. of eastheale· on þa myþa. of þam myþum· on ho[r]sies land pyll· of horsies land pylle· eft on pederidan.

Ego Aeþelstan rex anglorum hoc donum meum cum sigillo sancte consolidavi + Ego Eadmund indolis clito consensi + Ego Plfhelm archiepiscopus dictavi + Ego Aelfheah episcopus subscripsi + Ego Aelþelgar episcopus annui + Ego Conanus episcopus atestavi + Pulfgar dux + Ælfhere dux + Æþelstan dux + Æþelpold milles + Odda milles + Ælfric minister.

Translation.

These are the boundaries of the land at Curi that King Æthelstan gave to Muchelney, for the love of Christ and of St. Peter, for the souls of his forefathers, and for his soul, and for the souls of all the kings that should come after him. That is, first from the Parret[2] to "Athlongabig"[3] from "Athlangabig" to the "lyp"-stone; from the "lyp"-stone to the stone-castles,[4] and so thence to "spede"-way[5]; from "spede"-way to Bula's stone[6]; from Bula's stone to the stream of the Ile; from the stream of the Ile to the hoar appletree; and so thence from the hoar appletree to the thicket of dock; from the thicket of dock to Peda's meadow[7]; and so along the fen to Hrocabearu[8]; from Hrocabearu to the pool; from the pool to the east "healh"[9]; from the east "healh" to the confluence[10]; from the confluence to the land-pill of Horsey[11]; from the land-pill of Horsey to the Parret again.

[1] This charter is clearly spurious. Independently of the fact that it does not use the formulæ of Æthelstan's time, the fact that the grant is made to the monastery (and not to the bishop of the diocese or the abbot), and to the "brethren there serving God" would alone throw doubt upon its authenticity. The alleged writing of the grant in a copy of the gospels is suggestive of post-Conquest origin. The witnesses were probably copied from a genuine charter of Æthelstan's, which was dated between 934 and the end of his reign. "Laicus" is not a description that is used in genuine O.E. charters. The statement at the beginning of the boundaries as to the land therein contained having been given by Æthelstan to Muchelney for the health of his elders' souls, &c., seems to show that the boundaries do not belong to the charter, but are an independent record, probably considerably older, of the lands given, or reputed to have been given, by this king to the monastery.

If the bounds are correctly given, Curry Rivel must then have included all Hewish Episcopi, south of the Parret and Yeo.

[2] The O.E. name of the Parret appears in the Anglo-Saxon Chron. as *Pedride*, *Pederede*. The latter is the nom. of the form used in this text.

[3] This name must be much corrupted. The termination *big* is only known in O.E. as an adaptation of the Old Norse word represented by the termination *by* in northern and north-Midland local names. It may represent here O.E. *byge*, "bend, corner."

[4] The word *stan-cestel* is explained in the modern dictionaries as meaning a "chestnut-tree" (*cestel* from Latin *castanea*), but is obviously a derivative of Latin *castellum*. Indeed, the present instance is recorded as Stanchester, in Drayton. Roman remains are said to have been discovered there.

[5] The meaning of "spede" in this compound is unknown.

[6] "Bula's stone" has given its name to the Hundred of Bulstone, now Abdick and Bulston.

[7] Called *Penda's* meadow in the boundaries of Kingsbury, No. 111.

[8] The word *bearu*, gen., etc., *beara*, appears to be a West-Saxon by-form of *bearu*, gen., etc., *bearwe*, meaning "grove." See *Crawford Charters*, p. 50, for another example of this *u*-stem. *Hrōca-bearu*=rooks' grove.

[9] *Healh*, dat. sing. *heale*, is a very common word in the O.E. charters, but its exact meaning is unknown. It seems to mean some kind of field or meadow. Heale is a hamlet on the west side of the village of Curry Rivel.

[10] The confluence of the Yeo and Parret.

[11] Horsey, north of Muchelney.

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fol. ii*d*. CARTA CONFIRMACIONIS EDGARI REGIS.

3. [1]Annuente altitroni moderatoris instinctu[2] qui sua ineffabili omnipotentia cuncta que condidit mirabiliter disponit, conditaque justo misericorditer gubernat moderamine. Ego Edgar tocius Britannie basileus corde tenus rimari[3] ceperam que vel qualia gererem que ipsi grata animeque nostre de cetero profutura forent. Nam cuncta que humano cernuntur intuitu recidiva ac temporalia sunt que ante[4] non videntur eterna jugiterque mansura haut dubio consistunt. His igitur recidivis donum[5] opitulante gratia eterne patrie emolumenta lucrari et future beatitudinis contubernia adipisci toto mentis annisu sattagimus.[6] Hoc utretrementum[7] nostri pectoris archano creberrime volutans[8] de ecclesie statu saluberrime diffiniens cenobium Domino nostro Jhesu Christo nec non beato Petro apostolorum principi dedicatum loco celebri qui Miclani noto nuncupatur onomate luculenter editum obtimatum meorum usus conciliabulo eidem ditans dono libertati[9] qua priscis locupletatum gloriebatur temporibus Scilicet ut Alfwold presul egregius vita comite eidem presideat monasterio monachosque inibi constituens regulati[10] degentes norma paterno more foveat erudiat atque gubernet. Cum vero ultimum migrans ad Dominum exaltaverit[11] spiritum quem sibi omnis concors congregacio ex eodem fratrum cuneo elegerit secundum regule preceptum benivolum constituat abbatem,[12] ac deinceps hujus eleccionis libertas usu teneatur perpetuo[13] nec sibi presulum quispiam post hujus obitum jus sibi super monachos arripiat tirannidis Set abbas ut diximus electus regularis vitè disciplinam monachis sibi subjectis diligenti ad-

hibeat sollicitudine. Sit autem prefatum monasterium omniaque rura sibi a predecessoribus nostris collata[14] cum omnibus utensibilibus que celorum Dominus in ipsis mirabiliter edidit pratis videlicet pascuis silvis piscariis perpetua libertate solutum. tribus his exceptis rata videlicet expedicione pontis arcisve restauracione.[14] Qui autem predicti monasterii bona augere voluerit amplificet omnipotens Dominus ejus prospera hic et in futuro seculo. Si quis vero quod absit hanc nostram stabilem libertatis confirmacionem in aliud quem[15] constituimus transferre voluerit privatus consorcio sancte Dei ecclesie eternis baratri incendiis lugubris jugiter cum Juda Christi proditore ejusque complicibus puniatur, si non satisfaccione emendaverit congrua quod contra nostrum deliquid decretum.[16] Anno dominice incarnacionis D.C.C.C.C.LXIIIJ. scriptum est hoc privilegium his testibus consencientibus quorum inferius nomina notantur.[17] + Ego Eadgar Anglorum basileus hujus sirigraphe[18] caucionem agie crucis caumate[19] tripudians corroboravi + Ego Dunstan archiepiscopus confirmavi + Ego Aþeluualdus episcopus concessi + Ego Osulf episcopus consolidavi. + Ego Brithelm episcopus consignavi. + Ego Adhelstan episcopus adquievi. + Ego Ospold[20] episcopus adquievi. + Ego Aluuold corroboravi + Elfric abbas + Aescþig abbas + Osgar abbas + Orbriht[21] abbas + Adhelstan abbas + Ealred abbas + Sigeferð abbas + Aelfere dux + Aelfheah dux + Aþelstan dux + Aþelpine dux + Beorhtnoþ dux + Aeþelmund dux + Brihtferþ miles + Aelfyn miles + Aþelpeard miles + Ordgar miles + Wlftan[22] miles + Alfwold miles + Osulf miles + Ospeard miles.

[1] This charter is also of doubtful authenticity. There are several charters ascribed to kings of this period granting to monasteries the privilege of electing their own abbots, but they are all of very suspicious origin. The Rule of St. Benedict provided for such election by the monks, and as monks were introduced by Edgar under its rule in place of the clerks, it is probable that his monasteries enjoyed this right. But if so, it is clear that their right was challenged at a later time, and they sought to maintain or establish the right by means of forged charters. The charter also exempts the monastery from the power of the bishop. There is no genuine Anglo-Saxon charter granting such exemption. The charters granting these powers are as follows: *Cart. Sax.* i, 12 to St. Augustine's, Canterbury; 75, a forged bull to Peterborough; 90, a forged bull for Chertsey; 123, for Barking; 208, Glastonbury; 368, St. Alban's (see the better text in ii, p. *xi*); 373, St. Alban's; iii, 254, 257, Abingdon; 451, Romsey; 542, Peterborough; 550, Westminster; 584, Pershore; 594, Worcester; 614, Thorney; *Codex Diplom.* iii, 89, Worcester; 183, Tavistock; 226, Cerne; 267, Abingdon; 309, Sherborn; 324, Wherwell; 340, 344, Eynsham; iv, 15, 63, 231, 248 Bury;

101, 177, 184, Westminster; 144, Ramsey; 246, Ely; 274, Coventry. The charters in *Cart. Sax.* iii, 254, 257, 451, 583, 594, *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 267, are, *mutatis mutandis*, in identical terms. The Pershore charter exists in what may be a contemporary form (an. 972, *Brit. Mus. Facs.* iii, 30), but it is somewhat doubtful, and the Abingdon text has an original dated 993, but apparently somewhat later (*Brit. Mus. Facs.* iii, 36).

The *formulæ* of these texts are irregular. The present charter, as will be seen below, has some points in common with the Thorney and Eynsham grants. For the rest, it is largely made up of formulæ that were extensively used by the forgers of the Winchester and other charters, although many of these are derived from genuine charters. That some of these formulæ are found in genuine charters of Edgar's does not compel us to admit the authenticity of the present charter, for the formulæ of Edgar were better known, and more frequently utilised by the forgers than those of any other king. This arises partly from the fact that many of the formulæ introduced in his time continued in use until the Norman Conquest, and after.

The witnesses are copied from a genuine charter of Edgar's.

[2] This invocation occurs in a spurious charter of 672 (*Cart. Sax.* i, 47), but it is formed from the devotional clause of Edgar's title *annuente altithroni moderatoris imperio* (*ib.* iii, 333, 334, 351, 353, 360, 465, 654, and, with the substitution of *adminiculante* for *annuente*, 254, 257, 451, 491, 584, 594). It also occurs in charters of Æthelred (*Cod. Dipl.* iii, 170, 265), and in a forged Winchester charter of 826 (*Cart. Sax.* i, 544), and in two spurious charters of Eadwig (*Cart. Sax.* iii, 87, 89). Cf. also *ib.* 605.

[3] Cf. the genuine charter of Edgar (*Cart. Sax.* iii, 144): *crebro quidem coepi rimari, quod ea, quae videntur, temporalia ac caduca sunt, et quae non videntur aeternaliter mansura*, and the Winchester charter (*ib.* iii, 403): *intra mei pectoris archana superni moderatoris instinctu attactus, obnixe rimari ceperam, quo modo caducis aeterna, perituris mansura mercari valerem.* Later parallels in spurious charters may be found in *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 276, iv, 148.

[4] Read *autem.*

[5] Read *domini.*

[6] Cf. *Cart. Sax.* iii, 303, Winchester: *agnovimus, quod his recidivis aeterna iugitergue mansura, ob perpetuae remunerationis talionem, tocius mentis adnisu lucranda* (*lucrando*, Birch) *sint.* Cf. also *Cart. Sax.* i, 167, a Malmesbury forgery; iii, 87, Abingdon; 268, Winchester; 314, Bury; 547, Westminster; *Cod. Dipl.* iv. 74, Abingdon: *ut tamen aeternae patriae emolumentis nunquam fraudemur*, and *Cod. Dipl.* iv, 65, 133, both Abingdon: *semper mansura supernae patriae emolumenta adipiscentes, Domino iuvante, lucremur; Cart. Sax.* iii, 324; Abingdon, 434, genuine; *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 192, Winchester; 195, Winchester; 335, Ely, with slight variations. There are also others with further variations.

[7] Read *vero trementem*?

[8] Cf. *Cart. Sax.* iii, 403, quoted in note 3, and *ib.* 271, Wilton, *Hec et cetera corculi archano nostri volutans*, and 597, Wilton: *cum archana cordis indagatione eventilans.*

[9] Read *libertatem.*

[10] Read *constitutus regulariter* or *regulatim.*

[11] Read *exhalaverit.*

[12] From the Rule of St. Benedict, c. 64: *ut hic constituatur, quem sibi omnis concors congregacio secundum timorem Dei, . . . elegerit.* Cf. *Registrum Gregorii Primi*, ii, 19, v, 47. The charters at *Cart. Sax.* iii, 254, 257, 451, 584, 594, *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 268, referred to in note 1, partly agree with our text: *quem sibi universa prefati cenobii congregatio apto elegerit consilio, secundum regularia Beati Benedicti instituta, abbatem iuste ex eodem fratrum cuneo eligens constituat.*

[13] Cf. *Cart. Sax.* iii, 614, Thorney, *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 340, Eynsham (cf. note 1): *ut deinceps abbatum electio, secundum regulae praeceptum, ex eadem congregatione usu teneatur perpetuo.*

[14] Cf. genuine charter of Edgar, *Cart. Sax.* iii, 334 *cum omnibus utensilibus pratis, videlicet pascuis, silvis.* The clause frequently occurs in tenth century charters, but not in the immunity clause as in our text. The "Trinoda necessitas" is expressed in a portion of the formula of Edgar's chancery, which continued in use until after the Norman Conquest. It occurs, *e.g.*, in the charter cited at the commencement of this note. Scores of other instances could be cited of the use of the full formula there given.

[15] Read *quam.*

[16] The anathema is in the regular formula of Edgar's time, which, like the clause mentioned in note 14, remained long in general use.

[17] This dating and witnessing clause is in the regular formula of Edgar and his successors, with the substitution of *privilegium* for *carta* or its equivalent.

[18] Read *singrapha*, that is syngrapha (*συγγραφή*) in the sense of "deed," "charter." See further, *Crawford charters*, p. 117.

[19] Read *taumate*, that is thaumate (*θαύματι*). This is not the usual attestation of Edgar, and it is remarkable that it occurs in the group of charters in *Cart. Sax.* iii, 254, 257, 583, 594, *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 267, referred to in notes 1 and 12, and in the Thorney charter, *Cart. Sax.* iii, 616. See *Crawford Charters*, p. 117. The formula seems to be later than Edgar's time, despite *Cart. Sax.* iii, 289. The formula was obviously well-known to the Winchester, Abingdon, and other forgers.

[20] Read *Oswold;* the scribe has copied the O.E. p as p.

[21] An error for *Ordbriht.*

[22] An error for *Wlstan*, O.E. *Wulfstán.*

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fol. iv. CARTA CONFIRMACIONIS EÞELREDI REGIS DE YLEMINISTRE ET DE CAMMEL ET OMNIBUS ALIIS TERRIS AD MONASTERIUM DE MUCHELNIA PERTINENTIBUS.

4. [1]In nomine almi tonantis in perpetuum regnantis qui monarchium trinamque cosmi totius machinam ac celsitudinem polorum imamque profunditatem fluctuantis oceani in altis et in imis omnia cum suæ majestatis inperio nunc et in ævum gubernat et regit. Status igitur hujus mundi in velocitate deficiet

et rotunda seculorum volubilitas facessit sic alternando creaturarum terrenarum qualitas decrescit sic mutando mortalis vitæ fragilitas fatescit, de qua miserrima humani status vicissitudine æcclesiastes verus inquam contionator cælesti afflatus spiritu congruentem protulit sententiam, generatio inquid advenit et generatio preterit, alii oriuntur, alii moriuntur, ita universa divitiarum facultas et temporalis gaze possessio quam predecessorum ancxia sollicitudo per indefessa laborum emolumenta lucratur, pro dolor! incertis utpote heredibus nunc optatis nunc exossis relinquitur, quemadmodum psalmista improvidam humani generis sochordiam conqueritur dicens. Theshaurizat et ignorat cui congregat ea,[2] ideoque quia ipsa ruinosa deficiendo lugubriter dilabuntur, sumopere festinandum est ad amœna indicibilis lætitiæ arva ubi angelici ymnidice jubilationis organa mellifluaque vernantium rosarum odoramina a bonis beatisque naribus inestimabiliter dulcia capiuntur sineque calce auribus auscultantium suavia audiuntur. Qua propter fastidiunt jam infima dulcescunt superna eisque pro percipiendis semperque speciæ concupiscibili perfruendis per omnipotentis Dei gratiam, ego AEðELREDUS totius Angligene gentis basileos ceterarum nationum in circuitu degentium primatum regens, cum consensu atque consilio meorum optimatum ad monasteriolum quod noto Miclanig nuncupatur onomate hoc immutabile privilegium regia liberalitate æternaliter sine ulla mutabilitate concedo, quatinus quicquid nostri prædecessores inviolata traditione Deo sanctoque Petro, apostolorum principi, ad præfatum monasterium monachis inibi sub regularis vitæ normula degentibus donaverunt sine ullo obstaculo cunctis in prediolis villulisve rata grataque donatio nostra auctoritate inmunis habeatur. In primis in illa villula quæ appellativo usu &[3] Ilemynister nuncupatur quæ aliquo tempore a prefato monasterio inepte trium heredum temporibus ablata fuerat et nunc Deo donante ad proprium dominium juste reddita, sub quibus etiam tantum nefas proripuit ut falso hereditariam sibi scedulam contra jus usurpaverint quæ etiam postea reperta est et ab episcopis, ducibus, optimatibusque adnullata. Deinde etiam in illo prediolo ubi soliculæ ludibundis verborum vocabulis æt Cantmæl nomen indiderunt, quod Leofric hujusce monasterii abbas mea elemosinaria largitione a pristino prout libuerat posessore emebat, et postea illud Deo sanctoque Petro pro æternæ vitæ successione donando offerebat

adjunctis bis binis videlicet cassatis huic prefate terræ contiguis quas Æþelmær scilicet meus satrapa ad prefatum monasterium Deo et sancto Petro apostolorum principi optulit atque consecravit. In his etenim omnibus et in cunctis ut diximus prefati monasterii possessiunculis nostra regalis auctoritas in tantum habeatur ut nullus hanc libertatis cartulam cupiditatis livore depressus violare infringere mutare satagat. Si qui denique mihi non optanti hanc meam donationem adnullare voluerint cum agminibus tetræ caliginis lapsi vocem audiant examinationis die judicis sibi dicentis, Discedite a me maledicti in ignem æternum[4] ubi cum demonibus dira torqueantur in pena si non ante mortem digna hoc emendaverint pænitentia. Sit autem hujus nostra privilegii auctoritas inmunis ab omni fiscali tributo et secura maneat sine aliquo terreni census inpedimento cum omnibus ad se rite pertinentibus, campis, pascuis, pratis, silvis, tribus exceptis expeditione, pontis restauratione, arcisque munitione. Anno dominicæ incarnacionis DCCCCXCV, indictione VIII, scripta est hæc scedula his testibus consentientibus quorum nomina infra adnotata fore videntur. + Ego Æþelredus annuente Dei omnipotentis clementia rex et primicerius totius Albionis hoc nostræ donationis privilegium signo sanctæ crucis corroboravi. + Ego Ælfric Dorobernensis æcclesie episcopus confirmavi. + Ego Ælfheah Wintoniensis æcclesiæ presul consolidavi. + Ego Æscwig Dorcensis æcclesie superspeculator conquievi. + Ego Sigegar Fontane æcclesiæ pastor subscripsi. + Ego Wulsige Scirburnensis æcclesiæ opilio conclusi. + Ego Æþelweard dux. + Ego Ælfric dux. + Ego Ælfweard abbas. + Ego Leofric abbas. + Ego Ælfsige abbas. + Ego Byrhtelm abbas. + Ego Æþelmær minister. + Ego Ordulf minister. + Ego Wulfget minister. + Ego Wulfric minister + Ego Æþelnoð minister.

[1] This charter is here printed from the original, which is in the possession of the Marquis of Ailesbury. The rubric given above is derived from the chartulary. The copy in the chartulary has a few variations from the original, but it is not necessary to note these, as they are of minor importance and arise merely from the latitude that medieval scribes allowed themselves in copying older writings. The original uses the O.E. sign ƿ for *w* in all cases, except Wulfric in the penultimate line.

[2] Ps. xxxviii, 7.

[3] The abbreviation "&" (the "ampus-and") now used for "and" arises from an early ligature of the long Celtic "*e*" and "*t*," and hence is sometimes used, as in the present case, to signify the O.E. preposition *æt*, our "at."

[4] Matt. xxv, 41, cf. No. 7 below, note 3.

fol. *vd.* CARTA YNY REGIS DE YLE.

5. [1]Solet plerumque contingere ut beneficia predecessorum in futura posterorum progenie velud cece caliginis velamine occultata tegantur: si indiciis literarum sub testimonio plurimorum minime roborata fuerint. Qua propter gubernante domino atque jubente pontifice nostro þeodi oportet hanc diffinicionis donacionem scriptis inextricabiliter[2] confirmare quam Yny rex saxanorum rogante patricio suo Usibuco[3] precioque dato abbati Frodi pro anima sua dedit id est aliquam partem terre in quadraginta casatos. In qua donacione hiis verbis ita usus est coram illustrium virorum multitudine. Ego tibi hanc terram donans impendo pro vite eterne amore ut subjecta sit dominio gubernacionis tue et subdita juxta morem privilegii atque possesio monachorum jure perpetuo. Et nullus regum succedentium audeat hanc donacionem irritam facere aut frangere tyrannica potestate fretus. Que videlicet terra hiis locorum indiciis designatur. Nam triginta septem casati sunt in plaga orientali a ripa fluminis Yle et ex utraque parte vie publice, tres vero in parte occidentali fluminis Yle cum silva que dicitur Stretmerch. Terra vero hec extenditur usque ad fines quos antiquitus priscis temporibus priores nostri designando fixerunt. Hec vero diffinicio donacionis scripta est anno DCXCIII incarnacionis Christi indiccione sexta iij Kal: Januarii. Si quis vero hanc privilegii donacionem voluerit irrita facere sciat se rationem reatus sui domino Deo nostro in tremendo judicio redditurum.

[1] This is not a charter, but a record of the words alleged to have been used by Ine in making the grant of the land in question. It is a curious document. It is evidently intended for a charter, and this considerably lessens any belief that can be placed in it. The "Pontifex Theodi" can only be Archbishop Theodore of Canterbury, who died three years before the date of this text. The date, it will be noticed, is given by the year of the Incarnation; this alone would be fatal to its authenticity in its present form. The proem expresses a thought that is not uncommon among the early charters. See for example, *Cart. Sax.* i, 205, 254 (both made up from the formula at iii, 173); ii, 22; iii, 475, etc.

[2] Cf. *Cart. Sax.* i, 241, a Glastonbury forgery; *inextricabili scilicet roborari federe.*

[3] This name is blundered, and it is difficult to see what name can be intended. Perhaps the name is entirely fictitious.

fol. vi. CARTA KYNEWLF REGIS DE TERRA APUD YLE.

6. [1]In nomine Domini nostri Jhesu Christi! Ego Kynewlf, rex Occidentalium Saxonum, aliquam terre porcionem pro remedio facinorum meorum libenter largitus sum ad monasterium quod dicitur Michelnie Edwaldo abbati, id est, octo casatos inter duo flumina Earn et Yle, et ab occidente habet montem qui dicitur Duun Meten, coramque consilariis meis quorum infra nomina scripta tenentur. Scripta est autem hec scedula privilegii anno dominice incarnacionis DCCLXIJ Indictione XV. in loco qui dicitur Pentric. + Signum manus Kynewlfi regis + Signum manus Herewaldi episcopi + Signum manus Kyneheardi episcopi + Signum manus Scillingi prefecti + Signum manus Hemeles prefecti + Signum manus Cerdic prefecti. + Signum manus Heaheahfrithes prefecti + Signum manus Ethelrici prefecti + Signum manus Eoppan + Signum manus Wigfrithes prefecti.

[1] It is possible that this is derived from a genuine charter. Owing to the fewness of early West Saxon charters preserved in contemporary writing, it is not easy to formulate laws as to the charters of this Kingdom. But this charter in its brevity, the use of *signum manus* for the witnesses, and in its brief invocation agrees with the few charters of this period and with early charters from other parts of the country. It is remarkable for the absence of any of the late formulæ observable in the spurious charters dealt with above, and this alone is an argument in its favour. The king, Hereweald, bishop (of Sherborn), Kyneheard, bishop (of Winchester), Scilling, Cerdic, Ethelric, Eoppa, and Wigfrith witness a genuine charter of Æthelbeald of Mercia in 755–7 (*Cart. Sax.* i, 259, tenth century), and Hereweald, Scilling, and Cerdic witness a deed of Bishop Cyneheard in 759 (*ib.* i, 266), and Kynewulf, Hereweald, Cyneheard, Scilling, Hemele, Cerdic, Heahfrith, Ethelric, Eoppa, and Wigferd occur in a Wells charter of 766 (*ib.* 284). Finally, Scilling, Ham(ele), and (Wig)frith, all *praefecti*, witness a charter of King Cynewulf s, dated 778, the original of which is preserved (*ib.* 315). See also the Sherborn charter at p. 314. It is therefore clear that these witnesses are derived from a charter of this king. In a Glastonbury charter of 729, King Æthelheard of Wessex executes a charter in *loco, qui appellatur Pencrik* (*ib.* 214), the *Pentrik* (or *Pencrik?*) of the present charter.

fol. *vid.* CARTA EDGARI REGIS DE TERRA APUD YLE.

7. [1]Regnante Domino nostro Jhesu Christo atque ex culmine alti poli eternaliter cuncta invisibilia et visibilia alma virtute gubernante, cujus sanctum et involubile regnum sine initio fineque consistit. Ego Edgar, per omnipatrantis dexteram apice totius Albionis sublimatus, quandam ruris partem, id est decem casatos, in loco ubi vocitatur Yli meo fideli episcopo Alwoldo eternaliter impendere curavi; maneatque donum istud ab omni seculari servicio exinanitum, cum omnibus ad se rite pertinentibus, nisi sola expedicione pontis arcisve construccione.[2] Hanc vero meam donacionem quam opto absit a fidelium mentibus minuentibus atque frangentibus fiat pars eorum cum illis de quibus econtra fatur: 'Discedite a me maledicti in ignem eternum qui preparatus est Sathane et sathellitibus ejus.'[3] Facta est hec prephata donacio DCCCCLXVI dominice Incarnacionis anno indictione IX. Hiis testibus quorum nomina infra scripta tenentur. + Ego Edgar hanc prefatam donacionem corroboravi + Ego Dunstan archiepiscopus confirmavi + Ego Aþelwold episcopus consensi + Ego Bryhthelm episcopus consensi + Ego Alfwold episcopus consensi + Ego Elfhere dux consensi + Ego Orgar dux consensi + Ego Eþelwyne dux consensi + Ego Elfheah dux consensi + Ego Byrhtnoþ dux consensi + Ego Eþelwerd dux consensi + Ego Aylwyne minister consensi + Ego Byrhtferþ minister consensi + Ego Wlstan minister consensi + Ðis sindon þa land mere erest of eschforda[4] on cleȝwey. þanne on eorich[5] miþe up on streame. oþ cytanford þanne on þeodnesfeld . upward oþ eorich[5] . enlangstreames oþ earn . þanne norþ on mor . of more up on stanborȝ a dun on earn enlang earn . on ẏle up on ẏle oþ eschford.

Translation.

These are the boundaries of the land (*i.e.* estate): first from Ashford to clay-way, thence to the confluence of the Eorich[5] (the Yeo?); up the stream to Cytanford; thence to Theoden's (or the lord's) field; upwards to the Eorich[5]; along the stream to the Earn; thence north to the fen (moor); from the fen to the stone fortress; down to the Earn; along the Earn to the Ile; along the Ile to Ashford.

[1] This charter appears to be a forgery. The king's title *per omnipatrantis dexteram apice totius Albionis sublimatus* is that of Æthelstan, not of Edgar.

[2] This exemption clause is not the usua one employed in Edgar's charters. It occurs in a dubious charter of 946 (*Cart. Sax.* iii, 26 and 686), in spurious Chertsey charters (*ib.* iii, 471 ; *Cod. Dipl.* iv, 154), and in an Exeter charter of 969 (*ib.* 521), which is not contemporary. It is derived from a formula used by Kings Edmund and Eadred. It is used in a charter of Cnut's (*Cod. Dipl.* iv, 2).

[3] This anathema occurs in several of the Winchester, Abingdon, and Glastonbury forgeries ascribed to various kings (*Cart. Sax.* ii, 485, 471, 596 ; iii, 175, 177, 191, 228, 323, 498 ; *Cod. Dipl.* iii, 198, 211, 290 ; vi, 114, 117), and in the Exeter charter above mentioned. It occurs, however, in the original charter of Edgar's at the Public Record Office, dated 974 (*Cart. Sax.* iii, 624), and in a charter of Cnut's (*Cod. Dipl.* iv, 2).

[4] Recorded in Ashford, south of Ile Abbot's.

It is probable that this represents *Eo-rith*, a compound of *Eo* and *rīð*, "stream," "brook," or possibly merely the compound *ēa-rīð*, "stream," "brook."

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8. Confirmation of Bishop Reginald (1174–1191) concerning a pension from Sumertone.

Confirmation by Reginald, Bishop of Bath, to the monks of Muchelney, of 35*s.* and 5*s.*, to be taken yearly in the Church of Sumerton.

9. Confirmation of Bishop Savaric (1192–1205) concerning the Church of Sumerton. Fol. viij.

Confirmation by Savaric, Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, to the Monastery of Muchelney, of all the sheaves of their Church of Sumerton and the services of men belonging to the property of the church, saving to the vicars, to be appointed at the presentation of the abbots and monks in the same church, altarage and arable lands (*altalagio terris quoque arrabilibus*) and all obventions and small tithes.

This charter was "inspected" by the Dean and Chapter of Wells. (Wells MSS., pp. 28, 170).

10. Confirmation of Bishop Jocelin concerning the Church of Sumerton.

Confirmation by Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney of the Church of Somertone, saving to

Fol. ix. the vicars the whole altarage (*altalagio*) and obventions and all small tithes and all the demesne, as well of the mother church of Somertone as of the chapels (except the tithes of sheaves, and the rent and the services of tenants), and to the Abbot and Convent of Athelingenye their portion which of old they have been wont to take in the said parish. The vicar shall sustain all ordinary charges except the procuration of the archdeacon, the repairing of the chancel, books and vestments and the ordinance of the said church, which shall be borne proportionately by the Convents of Michelnie Athelnige and the vicar. Dated at Dogmeresfeld, on the day of the Crucifixion in the thirty-third year "of our pontificate."

This aforesaid grant is confirmed by the Chapter of Bath, and by the Chapter of Wells.

As the bishop was consecrated on the 28th May, 1206, the date of the charter is Good Friday, 1239. A chapel at Hurcote is mentioned in No. 100.

11. Composition between the Abbots of Muchelney and Alingenye concerning the tithes of the Lord the King in Sumerton and of Sir Henry de Erlege there.

A.D. 1254, 8 Id. July. Agreement between Robert the [Abbot] of Athelingenye, and the convent of that place, and John, the Abbot of Muchelnye, and the convent of that place, whereby the said Abbot of Athelingenye, gave all the tithes, great and small, pertaining to him of the demesne of the King in Sumerton, and of the demesne of Sir Henry de Erlege there, with all other tithes which he took there, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye for ever, for a yearly payment of 10 marks in four instalments, under pain of paying 20*s.* to the fabric of the Church of S. Andrew, Wells, for
Fol. x. each instalment unpaid. In presentia venerabilis patris Domini Willelmi (Button I) Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, Magistri Willelmi de Bosintoñ canonici Wellensis, Ranulfi de Cerne, Magistrorum Roberti de Bonevill et Benedicti de la Lade, de Dinintoñ et Septoñ ecclesiarum rectorum, Gilberti de Sarum tunc capellani dicti episcopi, Johannis tunc vicarii de Mertok et plurium aliorum.

Fol. xi. This above-written composition, W. then Bishop, and the Chapter of Bath and Wells confirmed.

Dinnington, though a rectory, is a chapel annexed to Seavington S. Michael. Septon is probably Shepton Beauchamp. Other references to Somerton will be found in Nos. 98–101, and 112.

12. Charter of Bishop Savaric concerning the prebend of Ileministre.

Acknowledgment by Savaric, Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, by the assent of Alexander the Dean, and the Chapter of Wells, that the Church of Ileministre is a perpetual prebend of the Church of Wells, and appointing that Richard, Abbot of Muchelney, and his successors shall for ever possess the said Church of Ileministre in the name of a prebend. Saving to the monks of Muchelney 50*s.*, which they have been wont to take from the said church for the sustentation of their kitchen. Also the assignment to the abbots of a stall in the choir, and a place in the chapter at Wells next to the precentor, without necessity of residence. The said abbots also shall for ever provide 6 marks yearly for the vicar ministering in his sacerdotal office in the Church of Wells. A.D. 1201, at Wells, on the morrow of S. Andrew the Apostle.

This above-written charter is confirmed by the Dean and Chapter of Wells.

The Bishop's action followed on the grant of the Church of Ilminster to the Church of Wells by the Abbot Richard. This grant was entered in the books of the dean and chapter. The abstract given in Wells Cath. MSS., p. 25, runs thus :—"Charter of Richard Abbot of Muchelney. Grants to S. Andrew the Church of Iliministre, A.D. 1201. Masses will be celebrated at Muchelney on the decease of a Dean or Precentor of Wells, as for their own Prior; on the decease of a Bishop, as for their own Abbot. Given at Wells in the presence of Bp. Savaric, Dean Alexander, William de S. Fide, precentor, on the morrow of S. Andrew, A.D. 1201." (p. 212.)

13. Ordinance of Bishop Jocelin concerning the Churches of Yle, Cammel, and Chippestaple, &c.

Whereas the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney submitted the Churches of Fifhid', Yle, Kammel and Chippestapl', and S. Mary of Yvelcestre, in which they held the right of patronage, Fol. xii. to our ordinance, we have thought good so to ordain that they shall convert the Churches of Fifhide and Yle, when first they shall happen to be vacant, to the relief of the poverty of their house, and the increase of hospitality and charity and to their own uses, and that whenever they shall happen to be vacant the possessor of them shall enter into them without our assent.

Saving in each of them a vicarage to be assessed by us and our successors. To the said vicarages the abbot and convent shall for ever present fit parsons. But the advowsons of the Churches of Kammel and S. Mary of Yvelcestre we reserve to us and to our successors for ever, free from all payment of pensions. But we reserve the advowson of the Church of Chippestapl' to the abbot and convent for ever, and will that the parson of the said church, after the death of Stephen, who was parson at the time of this ordinance, shall pay to them 20*s.* annually. A.D. 1239, in the thirty-fourth year "of our pontificate," September.

This ordinance is confirmed by Roger, William I, and William II, Bishops of Bath and Wells, and by the Chapters of Bath and Wells.

The morality of the whole proceeding is peculiar, the most extraordinary feature being the blackmail levied by the bishop for his consent. There is nothing about Chipstable in the Cartulary; it is entered in Domesday as a manor of the abbey. Yle=Isle-abbots. Fivehead *temp.* Domesday belonged to Roger de Corcelle, but the abbey owned Cathanger, a large manor in the parish. In process of time the two manors seem to have exchanged owners.

West Camel still is part of the bishop's patronage, but S. Mary's of Ilchester, having swallowed up all the other rectories and vicarages in the town without being much the richer for the process, now belongs to the See of London.

14. Charter of Gervase Iuaus concerning land of Bradene.

Grant by Gervase Iþas to Hugh de Montisorell' for his
Fol. xiij. homage and service, of one hide of land in Bradene, with a mill adjacent, water with a pond, a watercourse, and the entire fishery of the mill to hold of him and his heirs, paying yearly one pound of pepper. Saving the service of the King, to wit, the fourth part of a knight's fee. For this Hugh gave a palfrey of the value of 2 marks, and 1 mark of silver.

This charter is a little older than No. 15 dated 1228. Bradon *temp.* Domesday was the name of a group of four manors rated at five hides. Eventually one was merged. Two of the remaining manors became parishes called South Bradon and Goose Bradon. They have long since become obsolete, though South Bradon has an equivocal existence as a sinecure. As the abbey was never patron, it is clear that Bradon Ivaus given by Hugh de Montsorel (No. 15) was North Bradon. In the Nomina Villarum, 1317, "Norbradon cum hamel: de Earnhulle et La More" were held by the Abbot of Muchelney, Cristina de Staunton, Henry de Urtiaco, and John Darundel.

Little can be found relating to the family of Ivaus. Collinson, iii, 118,

is in error in making Ralph Inweans als. Ives owners of Knowle S. Giles in South Petherton Hundred, for his feudal lords held Knowle and North Stoke in Shepton Montacute near Bruton. Galfrid Iweyn was a small taxpayer in West Dowlish in 1327.

15. Charter of Hugh de Montsorel concerning land of Bradene.

Grant by Hugh de Monte Solello (*sic*) with the consent of Lucy de la Broche, his wife, and Herbert de Monte Sorello, his son and heir, for the safety of his soul and the souls of his father and mother and other relatives, to God and S. Peter of Muchelney, of his tenement of Bradene Ivas, with houses and buildings, chapel, lands, mill and meadows. Retaining nothing except the prayers and fraternity of the said place of Muchelney. He and Lucy his wife bequeath their bodies to be buried at Muchelney.

Hiis testibus; Henrico de Ornaco (*sic*), Thoma de Cyrencestr' tunc vicecomite de Sumerset, Willelmo vicario de Muchelney, Roberto de Bradene, Willelmo de Luveni, Roberto de Dilintone, Ricardo de Blancmuster, Roberto de la Wodelande, et multis aliis. Dated at Muchelney, A.D. 1228, January 2.

Be it remembered that the grant of the manor of Bradene was before Edward I by 48 years. (Note in a more recent hand.)

Whitelackington was the home of the head of the family of Mountsorrell, but there were also several junior branches established in the neighbourhood. They were probably all descended from Alured de Monte-Sorel, who in 1166 held three knight's fees of Gerbert de Percy, a representative of Roger Arundel, the Domesday owner of Whitelackington. The name will often be found in the Cartulary.

Hugh de Muntesorel witness in No. 126 belongs to an earlier generation again.

Of the witnesses: Henry de Ortiaco was, in right of his wife and her relations, lord of several manors in the district; he lived at Curry Rivel. Robert de Bradene was Lord of South Bradon, which was held by the family as late as 1347. The families of Luveni, Dilintone, and Wodeland held various properties under the abbey, as will be noted later on.

16. Confirmation of Adam Iuas concerning the land of Bradene.

Inspeximus and confirmation by Adam Iuas, son of Gervase Iuas, of a charter of the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney concerning the land of Bradene Iuas which they held of the gift of Hugh de Monte Sorello. Fol. xiv.

This charter is supplementary to Nos. 14 and 15.

17. Taxation of the vicarage of Yleministre.

A.D. 1268. On the Friday next after the Annunciation, John, Abbot of Muchelney, by his proctor on the one part, and John, Perpetual Vicar of Yleministre, on the other part, appeared in the Parish Church of Strete before the Abbot of Glastonbury and Master William, Sub-dean of Wells, then official of the Lord [Bishop] of Bath and Wells, and Walter de Calne, Monk of Glastonbury, arbitrators commonly elected between the same men with regard to the augmentation of the vicarage of Yleministre. After long argument the said Abbot granted to the vicar, besides the small tithes and obventions which he was wont to take, the tithe of two mills, to wit, of that which Bigod at one time held, and of that which Master John now holds, and 6 quarters of corn, to wit, 1 quarter of fine wheat (*siliginis*), 1 quarter of barley, 1 quarter of beans, and 2 quarters of oats, to be taken every year at Yleministre at Michaelmas. And because the true value of the portions belonging to the vicarage did not fully appear, they were assessed by trustworthy men, clerks and laymen, after this manner: viz., the
Fol. xv. Christmas oblations, 13*s.*, oblations of the Purification and of the Dedication of the Church 12*s.*, oblations of Holy Friday and of Easter, 20*s.*, oblations of the Assumption, 15*s.*, confessions and altar bread, 5*s.*, purifications of women, 3*s.*, marriage money, 2*s.*, money of occasional masses and trentals (*denarii missarum precar' et tricennalia*), 13*s.* 4*d.*, oblations of burials and mortuaries, 10*s.*, and the tithes of wool, 16*s.*, of cheese, 10*s.*, of cows, 4*s.*, of calves and foals, 2*s.*, of apples of the whole parish, 25*s.*, of all the mills, except the mill of the abbot which is called Kockesmille, 1 mark, of lambs, 14*s.*, of little pigs, 3*s.* 6*d.*, of honey, 18*d.*, of geese, 18*d.*, money coming from the curtilages which they call "heypeni," 13*s.*, the tithes of flax, 60*s.*, of pigeons (*columbarum*), 8*d.*, of hemp, 8*d.*, of 5 acres of land and of 2 acres of meadow, 8*s.*, of hay coming from Richard Maloysel, 16*d.*, 1 quarter of wheat, which he shall take from the abbot, 4*s.*, 1 quarter of fine wheat (*siliginis*), 3*s.*, 1 quarter of barley, 2*s.*, 1 quarter of beans, 2*s.*, 2 quarters of oats, 40*d.*, livery of the court of the abbot against Christmas, 5*d.*

On the morrow of Palm Sunday in the year aforesaid. Sum of the whole 13*li.*, 2*s.* 11*d.* (In a more recent hand.)

A commentary might be written on the details of this "Taxation" as

regards the value of agricultural produce. Kockesmille is now known as Eames' mill on the north side of the parish near to Cocksbridge. Missæ precariæ are, I suppose, extra masses ordered for special purposes. Although the vicar was to have six quarters of corn and beans, only five are enumerated.

In the Muchelney Calendar, the Dedication of Ilminster is set down on "III Kal. Febr. super littera A"

18. Charter of Robert de la Wydelande concerning the land of Cleyhanger.

Grant by Robert de la Wydelande to God and to S. Peter of Muchelney, for the safety of the souls of himself, his wife, and ancestors, in free alms, of all his land of Cleyhangre which he has of Fulk de Cleyhangre, to wit, 13 acres of land in Cleyhangre, *viz.*, those which lie around the marlpit (*marlera*) near the way which leads to Afford, and of all his land west of la Briche, with the appurtenances in his wood and land of Yle and Alfrichisbere north of the same wood, by those boundaries made between his wood and that land, with the whole of Alfrichesbere as the road (*via*) stretches as far as Little Rislegh Fol. xvi. with the whole way (*chimino*), and as the road of Cleyweya stretches as far as Risleyhesmede with the whole way, and as the meadow and that wood mede stretch as far as the ditch of la Merse, and of 1 acre of meadow in Risleyhesmede near the wood of Alfrichesbere with the whole hedge made between the said meadow and that wood, and of 3 acres of land in la Breche near the land of Yle on the [north] below Stichelesweye. Paying yearly to the said Fulk 1½ pounds of cummin, or 3*d.*, at the will of the said abbot and convent, for all secular service except royal service. He wills also that the almoner shall receive 4*s.* yearly by the hand of the abbot for the aforesaid land to make a refection of 3*s.* for the convent on the day of his anniversary, and 12*d.* to refresh the poor of Christ.

19. Confirmation of Fulk de Cleyhangre.

Confirmation by Fulk de Cleyhangre of the preceding charter.

Hiis testibus suprascriptis: Domino Henrico de Ortiaco, Domino Johanne de Aure, militibus, Radulpho de Monte Sorello, Willelmo de Luveni, Henrico Coronatore, Roberto de Daintre, Nigello de Hisebr', Ricardo Maloysel, Ricardo de Montesorell, Philippo de Yle, Ricardo de Albo Monasterio, Willelmo de Horsi, Willelmo de Wedmore, et multis aliis.

20. Charter of Fulk de Monte Sorello concerning the aforesaid land.

Fol. xvij. Grant by Fulk de Monte Sorello, son of Robert de Monte Sorello, to Robert de Wdelande for his homage and service, of 13 acres of land in Cleyhangre, to wit, those which lie around the marlpit (*marlera*) near the way which leads towards Afford, &c.; [as set out in the charter of Robert de la Wydelande to S. Peter of Muchelney on fol. xv.]

Nos. 18, 19, 20; see also 63 and 97. The earliest in point of date is No. 20, the original grant by Fulk de Montesorello to Robert de Wdeland; then comes No. 18, the gift by Robert to the abbey, and No. 19, the confirmation of the gift by the superior lord, who is now called "de Cleyhangre." So also in a "Pes finis," 33 Hen. III, No. 22. No. 63 is a quitclaim by Ralph, son of Thomas (97) de Montesorello, to the abbey of his right to the land, dated 1257; and 97 is his inspeximus and confirmation of the original deed of gift, this document being probably of even date with No. 63.

The date of Nos. 18–20 must be previous to 1242, as Sir Henry de Urtiaco died in that year. The date is probably not much earlier, as Ralph de Montesorello, one of the witnesses, was alive in 1257 (*v. supra*), and he was party to a "Pes finis" in 1263 concerning land in Broadway, Ped. Fin. 47 H. III, No. 83. Robert de la Wodeland appeared for Walter, Abbot of Muchelney, at Westminster, in a "Pes finis" of 22 H. III, No. 25. Nigel de Hisebr'; Hysebar is mentioned with Bradene and Aysford in a "Pes finis" of 52 Hen. III, No. 120, wherein Roger de Albo Monasterio, whose "antecessor" was Richard de Albo Monasterio (another witness), was claimant against brother William de Huntingefeld, master of the hospital of S. Thomas the Martyr at Akonia. Elena de Husebar was a taxpayer in Capland, 1 Ed. III.

21. Chirograph between the lord bishop and the abbot concerning a space next to the wall in the park of Drayton.

Whereas a controversy was moved between Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells, on the one part, and William, the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelney on the other part, concerning $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet of ground outside the wall of the bishop's park which is erected between the park of the bishop, called Hywis Park, and the park of the abbot and convent called Drayton Park, it was thus settled:

Fol. xviij. The abbot and convent granted that the said ground shall remain to the bishop and his successors for ever, with right to take whatever grows thereon, and to repair the wall when necessary, and the abbot and convent shall have the herbage of the ground for all kinds of deer and beasts.

Dated in Chapter of Wells, 2 Non., April, A.D. 1279.

Presentibus predicto Domino Episcopo, Dominis E. decano Wellensi, Ph. precentore, Th. archidiacono, G. cancellario, N. thesaurario, W. subdecano, W. succentore, R. preposito, et multis aliis ejusdem ecclesie canonicis.

This convention is confirmed by the Chapter of Wells. The bishop was Burnell; the dean Edward Cnoll; the archdeacon (of Wells) Thomas Button; the treasurer Nicholas, son of Nicholas, Rector of Martock, 1273 (Wells MSS., 198); the subdean William de Rous, "who is buried before the altar of S. Mary Magdalene in the Cathedral" 12 April, 1290 (Wells MSS., 213); the provost Robert de Haselschawe, 1314 (Wells MSS., 74).

Though the village of Huish Episcopi is on the north side of the Yeo, the parish stretches across both the Yeo and the Parrett to the bounds of Drayton. This strip of ground appears to be of the nature of a "deer leap" right, concerning which see an exhaustive article by J. Batten, Esq., F.S.A., in *Som. and Dors. N. and Q.*, v, p. 83.

22. Ordinance of the Lord Bishop W. concerning a chantry in the chapel of Styveleg'.

Whereas Sir William Everard, knight, prayed that he might have divine service celebrated for himself, his wife, household and guests, by a fit chaplain to be sustained at his proper costs, in his chapel of Stiveleg' within the limits of the parish church of Yle Abbatis, which by the bishop's licence he built in his court, as the said court is so remote from the mother church, and on account of the dangers of the ways and the inundations they cannot conveniently go to divine service in winter. William de Summer, rector of the said parish church, and the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, to whom the said church was given by Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, when it should first be vacant, opposed the petition of the said knight.

The parties submitted to the bishop, and he ordains that the said knight, his wife, and his heirs may for ever have divine service celebrated in the said chapel by a suitable chaplain at their expense. That the chaplain shall take an oath of fidelity to the rector, and after his resignation or decease shall take an oath to the abbot and convent that he will not take any Fol. xix. obventions or oblations, annuals or trentals, or other things which belong to the mother church, nor administer any sacraments to other parishioners of the said church to the prejudice of the same. Provided that no rector, vicar, or chaplain of the parish shall claim any gifts made by the faithful for the lights, the books, or the ornaments of the chapel. The said knight and his heirs shall pay to the said church 12*d.*

annually for ever. Penalties for breach of this ordinance. Dated at Kyngesbury, 4 Kal., August, A.D. 1262.

Stiveleg' is now Stewley, and a portion of the civil parish of Ashill. The Bishop is William Button I, 1248–1264. Sir William Everard, Sheriff of Somerset 1258–9, was descended from the family of that name settled at Luxborough by Earl William de Mohun. One of them by marriage with the heiress of Bellot, of Frome Bellot, in Dorset, inherited her property. Stewley may have been considered useful as a half-way house between the Somerset and Dorset property. Otherwise it does not seem to have been very suitable, not having even the recommendation of being near the church, though the reference to the dangers of the sea in proceeding thither given in the Bath Abbey Cartulary (S.R.S., vii, ii 51) seems to be overstating the case. The penalty for the chaplain doing anything contrary to the premises, and being unable to purge himself canonically, was suspension upon the simple denunciation of the rector, or the abbot and convent, without any proof (*op. cit.*, p. 52). Sir William and Matilda, his lady, purchased a half hide of land in Stewley from John de Quatremains in 1248, and added to their property by another purchase from Walter and Mariota Bernard in 1268. The family became extinct in the male line on the death of Edmund Everard in 1370 (Savage, *Hist. of Carhampton*, p. 257).

23. Agreements between the abbot and the parson of Curi Revel concerning certain tithes, oblations, and other things pertaining to the Church of Curi and to the Church of Draytone.

Whereas litigation was moved between Sir Walter, Rector of the Church of Curirivel, on the one part, and the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, on the other part, concerning certain tithes, oblations, and other parochial rights, it was settled in this manner, viz., that the rector for himself and his successors granted that the heirs of Thomas de Parham, the widow of the same Thomas, their children, and servants, William Ruffrigeray, John Bulepane, William Baldewyn, their wives, children, and servants, the mother of the same William Baldewyn and her servants, and all their free tenements at Wike, and those who shall in future hold the same, shall answer to the abbot and convent and their successors as parishioners for all tithes, obligations, and other parochial rights, so that neither the rector nor his successors shall have any right in the chapel of Wike, built in the court of the said Thomas de Parham (*in curia predicti Thome de Parham constructa de novo grādino*). All the greater tithes coming from the tenement of Nicholas the priest of Wike and his successors the abbot and convent shall take for ever. Saving to the rector and his successors all tithes, oblations, and other parochial rights coming from the dwelling

(*manso*), beasts, and the whole villenage of the said Nicholas and his successors, and also from the dwellings (*mansis*) of the villeins of Wike, and from the said villeins and the whole household and the whole villenage of the same town, the dwelling which J. Bulepanne now holds excepted. Saving nevertheless to the rector and his successors the greater tithes coming from part of a croft of the same John as it was villeinage of old. The abbot and convent shall not have any right from the said villeins as parishioners. The rector and his successors shall not exact anything in future from villenage reduced into demesne. The abbot and convent in consideration of the aforesaid rights shall pay yearly to the rector and his successors in his court at Curi half a mark. Fol. xx.

Dated at Muchelney, Id. May, A.D. 1271, sealed by both parties and by the official of the diocese.

The agreement is confirmed by the diocesan and by the Chapters of Bath and Wells.

Wike Perham, now Wick, is in the north part of the parish of Curry Rivel. The Bull for the foundation of the chapel was granted by Pope Alexander IV in 1254, the first year of his pontificate, to Thomas de Perham on the favourite ground that the mother church was far away and the road liable to inundations in winter. The Bull will be found in Bishop Salopia's Register, S.R.S., x, No. 1790; No. 1791 is the ordinance of Bishop William Button (I) made on receipt of the mandate, but 1250, the date given, must be an error for 1254 or 1255. The founder, Thomas Perham, and his father, John, had a dispute with the Abbot of Muchelney concerning common of pasture in part of their lands in 1238 (Ped. Fin., 22 Hen. III, No. 25), given in No. 73 of the cartulary. The rights of the abbey in this place seem a fragment of the original grant of Curi by King Athelstan (see No. 2). No. 115 is an interesting list of the endowments provided by Thomas Perham, and No. 116 is an inspeximus by the bishop, 1259. No. 123 is a copy of 23. The Perham family were still owners of Wyke in 1331, when the guardianship of John Perham, son of John deceased, was successfully claimed by John Lorty (*Som. Arch. Proc.*, XLII, ii, 49, 50). At Wyke, John Perham held four bovates of land of the abbey. By 1361, Wyke Perham had changed hands, as the presentation to the chapel was then in the gift of the abbey by reason of the minority of Nicholas, son and heir of William Poulet (Reg. Rad. de Salopia, S.R.S., x, p. 755). The chapel with its endowment survived to the reign of Edward VI (S.R.S. II, 10).

24. Charter concerning an acre of land given in endowment of the Church of Dreyton.

Grant and confirmation by Robert, son of Thomas de Drayton, to God and St. Catherine, of an acre of arable land in endowment at the dedication of the Chapel of Drayton, viz., half

an acre in the north field of Dreiton in La Wagge next the land of John Guthlach of La Leeacre, and half an acre in the south field above Morfurlang next the land of Osmer, to hold of him and his heirs, free from all service, for ever.

As the church at Drayton had a fine Norman doorway, which was taken down in this century, the grant cannot be later than the twelfth century; and the names of Osmer and Guthlach imply an early date.

25. Agreement between the Templars and the abbot concerning common pasture in Wattemore.

A.D. 1258. Agreement between brother Amedeus de Morestell, the master, and the brethren of the Knights Templars, on the one part, and John, the Abbot of Muchelney, on the other part, touching the moors called Watthemore [and] Prestemore. The masters (*sic*) and brethren granted to the abbot and convent that they may enclose Prestemore with a ditch, which said moor is the proper soil of the abbot and
Fol. xxi. convent, and they shall have it in peace for ever, provided that the master and brethren and their men of La Lade shall have no damage in Wattemore or in their moor of La Lade through inundation of water by reason of the said ditch, and if their cattle or the cattle of their men of La Lade enter Prestemore by reason of any defect in the enclosure or ditch, they shall be returned without damage. Concerning Wattemore it is agreed that the master and brethren and their men of La Lade shall enjoy common in peace for ever, and that the abbot in respect of the said moor of Wattemore shall from henceforth at no time cause their cattle to be imparked, chased, or in any manner harmed.

25, 26. Long Load is a tithing in the parish of Martock, and adjoins Muchelney. In the great "Inquisitio terrarum et donatorum" belonging to the Knights Templars made 1185, given in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, new edition, VI, ii, 821, there is no mention of Long Load. Pharamus de Bolonia (see No. 56) is, however, entered as a donor, and as he was a large landowner in the parish of Martock, probably Long Load was his gift, which was afterwards increased by the gift of William de la Lade as given in No. 26.

26. Chirograph of W. de la Lade, concerning common pasture in Wattemore.

Whereas a contention was moved between John, the Abbot of Muchelney and the convent of that place, on the one part,

and William de la Lade, "marescallus" (? farrier), on the other part, concerning common pasture, which William claimed against the abbot, in the moors called Wattemore and Prestmore, it is thus agreed between them. The abbot and convent granted to William and his heirs their pasture in Wattemore, so that they will not hereafter hinder the said William or his heirs from feeding their cattle in Wattemore, nor impark them. For this William granted to the abbot all right which he had in Prestmore for ever. Fol. xxij.

Dated at Muchelney, Monday next after Palm Sunday, A.D. 1254.

In the Bruton Cartulary, Nos. 197–199 are grants by William de la Lade, son and heir of William le Mareschal, of La Lade, dated 1273.

27. Charter of Cristina de Wyke concerning royal service.

Whereas a controversy was moved between Richard, the Abbot of Muchelney, and Cristina and her heirs, partly concerning land called La Breche in Hortun, which the abbot said pertained to his demesne of Illeministre, and partly for royal service for her tenement of Wicha, which the abbot said ought to answer for 2 hides. After a plea moved both in the court of the King in London and in the county [court] of Somerset, it was thus settled, that she and her heirs will for ever answer concerning Wicha for 2 hides of royal service in all collections which shall be made for hidage and will do the scutage due. She also granted in free alms for the safety of the soul of herself, her ancestors and heirs, all the land called Rodacia, and at her land called La Seo, one of her men called Ralph Niger, with all his issue (*sequela*) in the whole tenement, his service, and whatever right she had in the man and in his tenement.

Dated at Langport, in the Church of All Saints', A.D. 1202, on the vigil of Holy Trinity.

Although I have not been able to find the equivalent of Wyke in modern Ilminster, there can be little doubt that, like Sea and Horton, it lay somewhere in that wide-spreading parish, and that it is not Wyke Perham in Curry Rivel. One would expect to find the place-name of Wyke in every large ancient parish.

28. Charter of Richard Revel, the younger, concerning two parts of the service of a knight, &c., of Dunheued.

Inspeximus and confirmation by Richard Revel, the younger,

of the charter of Richard Revel, his father, No. 109 [as on folio o at commencement of the book].

In the fifteenth year of King John, 5 Kal. of July [1213] in the Church of St. Andrew at Northovere.

Fol. xxiij. 29. Final concord at Westminster, in the quinzaine of Easter, in the twelfth year of King John, between Richard, Abbot of Muchelney, plaintiff, by Robert de Dilinton, put in his place, and Richard Revell, the elder, deforciant, by James, son of Wdo, put in his place, concerning military service, whereof Richard ought to have acquitted the abbot against the Lord the King in his army of Scotland. Richard acknowledged that he owes the abbot two parts of military service in money, whereof five parts shall make the service of one knight, to wit, of the land of Duneheved, and for this the abbot remitted the arrears of the said service to Richard. [See "Pedes Finium for Somerset," S.R.S., vi, p. 27, 12 John, No. 6.]

30. Charter of Richard Revel concerning three acres of meadow in Pulmede for three *ringe* of wheat and one sextary of honey yearly due.

Richard Revel, son of Richard Revel, gives to Richard the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, in recompence of 3 *ringe* of wheat and 1 sextary of honey, which he and his ancestors
Fol. xxiiij. were bound to pay yearly in name of alms, 3 acres of his meadow of Pulmede towards the east. He also gives to them in free alms 12*d.*, to be taken yearly from the house which was of Robert Palmer (*palmarii*) and Ieona, his wife, after him, which house is situated above the bridge of Langport to the north. Dated at Muchelney, in the first year of the Translation of St. Thomas (7 July, 1220), 4 Non., January.

31. Charter of Richard Revel concerning one mark to be received yearly from Andredesya.

Richard Revel grants to St. Peter and the Abbot and the Monks of Muchelney for the souls of his father and mother, his ancestors and heirs, 1 mark of silver to be received yearly in free alms, to wit, that which Richard le Bule is bound to pay to him and his heirs from the land of Andredeschie. Dated at Muchelney on the last day of March after the general relaxation of the interdict of England (29 June, 1214), viz., on the day on which

Richard Revel, the grantor's father, was translated and buried before the altar of the Holy Cross in the greater church of Muchelney.

32. Also letters testimonial of the same Richard concerning the same mark. Fol. xxx.

Letter by which Richard Revel, son of Richard Revel, orders Richard le Bule and his heirs to pay yearly of the farm of Andredeseia 1 mark to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney for the safety of his soul, and the souls of his father and mother and all his ancestors and successors, and wills that this letter be preserved in the archives of Muchelney. Dated at Muchelney, in the first year of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, 4 Non., January.

28–32, 37, 109. The earliest of these charters is No. 29, a transcript of the Fine wherein Richard Revel senior acknowledges his feudal service to the abbey for his land at Downhead, a manor in West Camel. Richard Rivel was one of the new men who came to the front in the reign of Henry II; at one period he had charge of the castle at "Kaermerlin" (Pipe Rolls, 26 and 27 Hen. II.). In the Liber Ruber under 1166 he is set down as holding Langport and Cury Rivel by the service of two knight's fees, and a part of the single knight's fee held by Muchelney Abbey. He was still alive at the date of this Fine, the quinzaine of Easter, 12 John, *i.e.*, 1211. No. 109, which is the solemn agreement between R. Rivel and the abbey with list of witnesses, is dated 6 March, 12 John. As his reign began April 6, 1199, the year would be 1211. But the fine would be levied not before the agreement but afterwards, so there is most probably an error in the arrangement of the charters. He was dead at the date of No. 28, 1213; but not buried until 31st March, 1215, after the general relaxation of the Interdict of England. We learn this from No. 31, a grant of one mark yearly from the land at Andredesya (in Curry Rivel see No. 37), on the day that R. Rivel senior was translated and buried in the greater church, *i.e.*, the church of the abbey at Muchelney. R. Rivel junior died about 1222, as in that year the sheriff was directed to find out how much land Richard de Rivell held in capite in his bailiwick, and to give seisin to Henry del Ortiay (de Urtiaco) and Sabina his wife, daughter and heiress of Richard Rivell, and Mabel, daughter and eventually heiress of Walter de Ashleigh (*Som. Arch. Proc.*, XLII, ii, 28 *seq.*, and see No. 50 in this cartulary).

33. Charter of Richard de Wrotham concerning (Thomas Ouerton abbas emit de novo pro Ernishill[1]) wheat, barley, beans, and oats, to be received at Cathangre.

Grant by Richard, son of Richard de Wrotham, in settlement of a dispute between the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney and himself, concerning 1½ hide of land in Cathangre and 1½ virgate

[1] Inserted in a later hand.

of land in Fifhide, for which he was sued in the court of the King at Ivelcestria before the Lord Jocelyn, Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, then chief justice, and his co-justices of the Bench Robert de Cardinan, John de Briwes, Osbert son of William, John de Baiocis, Roger Cole, canon of Exeter, and Henry de Waltham sitting there *in banco* on 10 February, 3 Henry III, for the safety of his soul and the souls of his ancestors and his heirs, of 1 quarter of pure wheat, another of pure barley, and a third of dry beans, London measure, and 1 quarter of oats of the same
Fol. xxvi. measure, doubled, to be received yearly at Cathangre in the name of alms. If Richard de Wrotham and his heirs shall negligently transgress the day of payment, the abbot may distrain by their cattle or men wherever they may be found in the fee of the abbey without contradiction and retaking of distresses (*namiorum*), which are called in English "Wipenam."

34. Final concord made in the court of the Lord the King concerning the same.

Final concord made at Ivelcestre on Saturday after Ash Wednesday, 3 Henry III, between Richard, Abbot of Muchelney, plaintiff, and Richard de Wrotham, tenant, of 1½ hide of land in Cathangre, by which the said abbot quitclaimed all right in the said land for ever. For this Richard de Wrotham gave the abbot 1 quarter of pure wheat, 1 quarter of pure barley, 1 quarter of dry beans, London measure, and 1 quarter of oats of the same double measure, to be paid each year in the court of Richard de Wrotham at Cathangre at Michaelmas.

See "Pedes Finium for Somerset," p. 31, 3 Hen. III, 11.

35. Charter of Geoffrey de Scoylond concerning the aforesaid wheat, &c.

Grant by Geoffrey de Scoilande, Lord of Cathangre, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, of 1 quarter of pure wheat, 1 quarter of pure barley, 1 quarter of dry beans, and 2 quarters of oats, &c. [as in the charter of Richard de Wrotham on folio xxv],
Fol. xxvij. which rent he ought to pay as well for himself as for all other heirs of Richard de Wrotham, his uncle. Also that the abbot in default of payment of the said rent may distrain in 60 acres of land which lie in those cultures called Morfurlang and Ringfur-

lang, and in 4 acres of land which he has of the gift of the said abbot, for 12*d.* of yearly rent.

14 Kal., March, 52 Henry III (1268).

36. Chirograph made in the court of the Lord the King concerning the aforesaid wheat, barley, beans, &c.

(Quia Thomas Overton abbatis (*sic*) habet veste Hernis Hyll.[1])

Final concord made at Ivelcestre in the quinzaine of the Purification, 52 Henry III, between John, the Abbot of Muchelney, plaintiff, and Geoffrey de Scoilande, deforciant, of 10 quarters of wheat, 10 quarters of barley, 10 quarters of beans, and 20 quarters of oats, which are in arrear of the yearly rent of 1 quarter of wheat, 1 quarter of barley, 1 quarter of beans, and 2 Fol. xxviij. quarters of oats, which he owes him. Geoffrey granted for himself and his heirs that from henceforth he will pay every year to the abbot and his successors 1 quarter of pure wheat, 1 quarter of pure barley, 1 quarter of dry beans, and 2 quarters of pure oats for ever, [clause of distraint as in charter of Geoffrey de Scoylond on fol. xxvi], for which the abbot granted to Geoffrey 4 acres of land in the cultures called Mirforlang and Ringfurlang, to hold to the same Geoffrey and his heirs for ever, paying yearly 12*d.*

See "Pedes Finium for Somerset," p. 213, 52 Henry III, 92.

Cathanger is a manor in Fivehead, and *temp.* Domesday was the property of the abbey. It afterwards was held by the family of de Wrotham (regno Ric. I, Collinson, i, 39). As, however, Fivehead, which in Domesday belonged to Roger de Corcelle, is acquired about this time by the abbey, there may have been an exchange voluntary or compulsory on the abbot's part. The manor and advowson of Fivehead remained with the abbey down to the dissolution.

The two notes in a later hand are rather obscure. The language seems to imply that Thomas de Overton (abbot 1353) bought anew the rent in kind for Erneshill. As the Wrothams had an interest in Westerneshill and a rent of 20*s.* out of a property there (Ped. Fin., 20 Hen. III, Nos. 198, 221); and as the abbey do not appear as landowners in Erneshill before 1317, it is likely enough that Abbot Overton merely completed some arrangement whereby the rent in kind from Cathanger was exchanged for a rent in cash from Erneshill. Easterneshill, with the advowson of the rectory, long since a sinecure, and now extinguished, does not appear to have ever belonged to the abbey.

Richard, son of Richard de Wrotham, succeeded in 1219 his uncle, William de Wrotham, who combined in his own person the offices of Archdeacon of Taunton and Forester of Somerset. He died childless in 1236, when his four

[1] Marginal note in a more modern hand.

sisters divided the inheritance. Cathanger fell to Emma, wife of Geoffrey de Scolande (Collinson in i, 41, says Margaret, but in iii, 55, Emma, which is supported by No. 87 of this cartulary). He established for himself and his wife Emma, his father also, Geoffrey, and Juliana, his mother, an anniversary in the abbey with all the privileges thereto belonging as set out in No. 87, without date. In No. 35, dated 1268, the reference to Richard de Wrotham as his uncle by Geoffrey de Scolande shows that he was a third bearer of that name, and no doubt the one whose death occurred in 1288.

37. Charter of Richard le Bule concerning three shillings.

Grant by Richard le Bule for the safety of his soul, of Claricia his wife, and his heirs, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney for ever, of 3*s.* which Alice, late the wife of Richard Sumentar, was bound to pay to him for 9 acres of land which pertain to Andredeshie in the fields of Curi Revel, to wit, in the west field 5 acres, and in the east field 4 acres, for which acres the said Alice has his charter for herself and her heirs, and the said abbot and convent shall yearly receive the said 3*s.* in the name of alms; and he also assigns the said 3*s.* to provide charity for the aforesaid convent every year on the day of his anniversary, and moreover half a *ringa* of wheat to be received every year at his mill of Werne on Thursday before Easter to make offerings.

See notes on Nos. 28-32. Werne is on the north side of Langport.

38. Charter of Geoffrey de Sancto Claro concerning land of Somerton.

Fol. xxix. Grant by Geoffrey de Sancto Claro to God and St. Peter and the sacristy of Muchelneye, for the souls of his father and mother and ancestors, of 8 acres of land in Sumerton in frank almoin in aid of providing wine, offerings (*oblata*), and incense for ministering in the Church of St. Peter, Muchelney, to wit, in the east field 1 acre called Churhaker, and 1 acre in Brocfurlang, next the acre which lies near the boundary of Sutton, and 2 acres in Yokemereslande, and in the west field 4 acres which lie next the highway, which extends towards Langport on the south side of the cross.

39. Charter of Sir Robert de Sancto Claro, and confirmation of Robert de Sancto Claro, the younger, concerning a way towards Muchelney.

Inspeximus and confirmation by Robert de Sancto Claro, Lord of Stapleton, for the safety of his soul, and the souls of his wife, boys, father, mother, and ancestors, of a grant by Robert

de Sancto Claro, his grandfather, with the assent of Aaleis his wife, William his son and heir (*heredes, sic*) to the monks of Muchelney, and all who shall wish to go to that church, of free transit by the nearest way which leads to the pasture to the north of his town of Stapelton with their waggons (*carris*) and carts (*bigis*), and across the pasture as far as 20 perches where he has 2 acres in demesne; and also from the 20 perches of a way with waggons and carts along his meadow, as a path formerly lay, as far as Haiwardesmede, and so beyond Haiwardesmede as far as the demesne of the abbey.

The confirmation dated at Muchelney A.D. 1239, Thursday before the day of St. George the Martyr [23 April]. Fol. xxx.

40. Charter of Robert de Sancto Claro concerning a pound of wax for the moor of La Hamme.

Acknowledgment by Robert de Sancto Claro that he and his heirs are bound to pay to St. Peter of Muchelney, to wit, to the refectioner (*refectorario*) of that house, a pound of wax of yearly rent for a certain tenement which they hold of the monks by homage and service in their moor of La Hamme, which tenement the said monks gave to him on account of the way which he and his heirs freely granted to them.

Nos. 38–40. Stapleton is a hamlet in the parish of Martock. The family of Sco. Claro was founded in Somerset by Bretel, who held many manors both in this county and in Dorset under the Count of Mortaigne. The main line seems to have merged into the family of Ashleigh (*Som. Arch. Proc.*, XLII, ii, 28). The count had another tenant of this surname, Hubert, at Kingstone, near Ilminster, who did not long retain it. The name is also found at different periods at East Coker, Ashbrittle, Pupelpenne in North Perret, Somerton and Stapleton. The last-named branch held on the longest—until the reign of Henry IV. Collinson gives some account of the family (iii, 7), but as he makes Robert, who was of full age in 7 Hen. III, 1223, live until 2 Ed. II, 1308, his account is not altogether to be trusted. Stapleton was held by serjeanty, the earlier service being the provision of a mounted soldier for forty days, while in the Plea Rolls for 27 Hen. III (S.R.S., No. 1068) it is set down as the privilege of bearing a towel before our lady the Queen on the day of Pentecost. The family provided a chapel at Stapleton, and in the angle of a barn wall may still be seen a little figure carved out of Hamstone, which may once upon a time have been an ornament therein.

"La Hamme" is now known as Muchelney Ham.

41. Charter of Roger Prior and of Constance de Dunepole concerning 16*s*.

Grant by Roger Prior and Constance de Dunepole, his wife,

for the safety of their souls, the souls of their ancestors and heirs, to Richard, the Abbot of Muchelney, and his successors, and the convent for ever in frank almoin, of the whole service which Adam de la Mere, son of William de la Mere, was wont to do to them, to wit, 16*s.* of gabel by the year, and the same Adam and his heirs shall do foreign services as they were wont to do, but the abbot and his successors shall have the said service of 16*s.* with homages, wards, and reliefs of the
Fol. xxxi. heirs of the said Adam. Nevertheless, Adam and his heirs shall have in the manor of Dunepole the customary liberties and easements in wood and plain. This charter sealed by the grantors was offered by them on the high altar at Muchelney with due devotion.

42. Charter of Constance.

Grant by Constance de Dunepole, daughter of Richard de Dunepole, for the safety of her soul, and the souls of all her ancestors and successors, to St. Peter and the Church of Muchelney, of 1 furlong of land of her inheritance, which Turgisus, and after him Ralph, his son, held; and of Peter, her son, whom she offered to serve God in the same church, under the monastic order. The Abbot and Convent of Muchelney shall have the said furlong in frankalmoin quit from all exactions, saving the service of the King. Malediction on infringers. Dated in the first year of the coronation of King John, 3 Kal., March [1200].

Dunepole still survives as Dunepole Farm, on the south side of Ilminster. As Dunepole, it appears in the bounds of the parish given in the charter of King Ine 725 A.D.

43. Charter of Nicholas Punsot concerning land in Cammel Rumare.

(Nunc vocatur Wesstewals.[1])

Grant by Nicholas de Punsoth to St. Peter and the Abbot and monks of Muchelney, of all the land which he had in Kammel Rumare of the gift of Thomas de Atrum, viz., of the fee of Robert de la Boche and Gilbert Gervasii without any withholding, with a messuage and croft called Garstuna, and a messuage and croft which formerly Witewell held, and a croft called Puryhey, together with land in the fields, to wit, in the

[1] Addition.

north field upon Swethammede 2½ acres, to wit, next the land Fol. xxxij.
of Jordan de la Grave half an acre, next the land of Richard le Franch 1 acre, next the land of Richard de Kammel 1 acre in Hethinge, next the land of Richard le Franch 2½ acres under Holewlle, next the land of Jordan Marchant half an acre; also under Westholewlle next the land of Hamund 1½ acre, next Witlecumweye next the land of Robert the reeve (*prepositi*) half an acre, upon Holewlle, next the land of Jordan Marchaunt 1 acre, upon Histholewlle next the land of Jordan Marchaunt half an acre, in Middelfurlang upon Holewlle next the land of Robert the reeve 1 acre, "Bi cunneweye," next the acre of of Robert Gilbert "Bi swtheheye," 1 acre, next Kammelhamelansore 1½ acre against the hill, next Landsore 1 acre, in the same furlong 1½ acre, in Wrthacre next the land of Richard and Jordan de la Grave 2 acres, above Risbedde 2½ acres, above Hulle 1½ acre, at Blakemoresfurlangesheved 1 acre. On the west side of the land of Hamund 4 acres, at the head of Wrthacre 1 head acre (*heved acrum*), in the south field in Garstuna 1½ acre, in Middelfurlang next the land of Richard de Kammel 1 acre, in the same furlong towards the east 1½ acre. Also in the same Bimithe Gothethorne 2 acres, in Middelfurlangesheved 1 head land (*forhurtham*) upon Brokfurlang 2½ acres, behind the house of Cobba 2 acres, in Flexlonde in the upper part of the land of Walter the clerk 2 acres, in the same furlong 1 acre, also in the same 1 acre, also in the same 2 acres, also in the same 1½ acre; in Lawrthe half an acre, in Westlangfurlang 1 acre head (*acram heved*), also in the same furlong 1 acre; behind Rigweye half an acre, in Middelfurlange 1 short (*curtam*) acre; next the land of Richard Birigweye half an acre, in Middelfurlang 1½ acre, with 2½ acres of meadow every year, next Holewelleslaca, a small piece of meadow, to hold to the said abbot and the monks for ever, paying yearly to the heirs of Robert de la Boche 16*d.*, and to the heirs of Gilbert Gervasii 3*s.*, for all service, saving royal service. If the said Fol. xxxiij.
Nicholas and his heirs cannot warrant all the said land, they will make an exchange to the value of the said land in their own inheritance at Mapodre or in Winterburne.

Dated at Cammel Abbatis, in the twenty-fourth year of King Henry, son of King John, in the time of Walter de Cerne, then Abbot of Muchelney on Sunday, after the feast of St. Bartholomew [1240].

44. Confirmation of Mabel, relict of Thomas de Atrum, concerning land of Cammel Rumare.

(Nunc vocatur Westewals.)

Inspeximus and confirmation by Mabel, relict of Thomas de Atrum, of the foregoing charter, concerning the land of Cammel Rumare, which land Sir James de Erneshulle, her father, gave to her in free marriage when he married her to the said Thomas Atrum.

45. Charter of William de Cantilupo concerning release of suit of Cammel Rumare.

Release and quitclaim by William de Cantillupo, son and heir of Richard de Cantillupo, for himself, his heirs and assigns, to Sir John de Barnevile, then Abbot of Muchelney, and the convent of that place and his successors, and to William de Punsoth and his heirs and assigns, of that suit which they owed him for certain land which the said William de Punsoth holds of him in Cammel Rumare, and which land the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney have of the gift of Sir Nicholas de Ponsoth, the father of Sir William de Punsoth, and for which the said abbot sued the said William de Ponsoth in the county [court] of Dorset by writ "*de medio*" to acquit him of the said suit in his court. For this release the abbot and William de Punsoth gave him 20*s*.

Fol. xxxiiij.

46. Charter of Henry Francke concerning land of Cammel Regis.

Release and quitclaim by Henry Francke de Estcammel, son of Richard Francke, for himself and his heirs for ever, to the Church of St. Peter, Sir William the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelney, of all right and claim which he had in 2 messuages, 45 acres of land, and 2½ acres of meadow in Estcammel, for which he sued the said abbot in the county [court] of Somerset, and before the Justices of the Bench by writ "*de recto*," in the fifth year of King Edward. For this release the abbot and convent received him and his heirs in all benefits which hereafter shall be made in their church. [Date 1277.]

43-46. Camel Rumara, more generally known as East or Queen's Camel, derived its second name from the family of Rumara. Of this family was William de Rumara, the founder of Cleeve Abbey, to which Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, gave the advowson of this parish.

Westewals is part of Wales, a hamlet between Queen Camel and Camel Abbatis or West.

The family of Punsot were lords of the adjacent manor of South Barrow (*v. S. and D. N. and Q.*, vols. iv, v). A Hugh de Erneshulle appears in Ped. Fin., 20 Hen. III, No. 199, who may have been a son of Sir James.

William de Cantilupe was Lord of Chilton Cantelupe (Cantelo), with Richard de Venour, his brother-in-law in 31 E. I, 1303. He was the great-grandson of Roger de Cantelupe, to whom Gilbert de Cantilupe granted lands in Camel by a charter dated 3 John. No. 45 falls within the abbacy of John de Barnevile, 1257–1274. Sir William, the abbot mentioned in 46, is William de Gyvele, 1274–1293.

47. Charter of William Haket, knight, concerning 3*s.* for a pittance and 12*d.* for alms on the day of his anniversary, and half a virgate of land in Little Merstone.

Grant by William Haketh, Lord of Little Merstone, to St. Peter, the abbot and monks, of half a virgate of arable land in Little Merstone in alms, for the safety of his soul and the souls of Eva, his wife, his father, mother, ancestors, and successors, and of Sir Fulk de Cantelupo, that is to say, 18½ arable acres in 3 fields, to wit, in the east field in the culture of Lambroke, in "furland," which extend upon the great way 5½ acres. In three Fol. xxxv. fields, to wit, in the east field in the cultures "terra" (*sic*) 7 acres which join the boundaries on the west side of his great culture. Also in the south field 6 outer acres of that culture towards the south next the boundaries between him and Robert de Cantelo, and 1½ acre of meadow next his demesne meadow between him and his men towards the west, and of free ingress and egress to their said land and meadow as often as they will, quit of all rent. He wills also that the abbot, who for the time shall be, shall make yearly a pittance of 3[*s.*] to the monks and 12*d.* to the poor on the octaves of the Purification during his life and after his death on the day of his anniversary.

Dated at Muchelney, A.D. 1241, on the octaves of the Purification, in the time of Walter de Cerne, then Abbot of Muchelney.

47 and 53. The family of Haket were also owners of Bere Hacket, near Sherborne. Robert de Cantelo herein mentioned was the founder of the junior branch of that family (Ped. Fin., 3 John, No. 47). Sir Fulke de Cantilupe has not been met with before; he may have been the rector of the parish. It was apparently to put a stop to these gifts that William de Cantilupe, sen. (of Barwick), levied a fine (29 Hen. III, No. 6), by which William de Haket was bound not to "give, sell, injure, waste, or spoil" any part of the manor of Merston Parva, as it was only his for life, and afterwards should go to the said William de Cantilupe.

48. Chirograph of Walter de Loveni concerning land of La Seo, Bolewyneshese, &c.

Grant by John, the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelney, to Walter de Luveny for his homage and service of all their land of La Seo, which Bricius de la Seo at one time held of them at farm, and all their land of Bolewynesh', Bugelese, and Stikelepathemor', which they had of the gift of John de Loveny, with all the rights which the said John or his heirs had in the said
Fol. xxxvj. land, to hold to the said Walter and his heirs for ever, paying yearly for the land of La Seo 3*s.*, and for the land of Bulewynesh' 14*s.*, and doing to Sir William de Monte Acuto and to his heirs for the land of Bugelese and Stikelepathemor' that which was wont to be done for all service, &c., saving royal service, to wit, of one horse of old due to the abbot and convent for the land of Bulewynesh', and saving the service due to William Twyen and his heirs for the same land.

Dated at Muchelney, 8 Id. February, A.D. 1262.

48. La Seo is now Sea, a dilapidated farmhouse near Dunpole on the south side of Ilminster.

The family of Loveny were of long continuance in the parish. The earliest appearance of the name in Somerset seems to be on the Pipe Rolls of 1172 and 1173, when Alexander de Luveigny was in charge of the Abbey after the death of the Abbot. He was a juror in 1202 (Som. Pleas, No. 8), and a party in a fine of the same year (Ped. Fin., 3 John, No. 69). William, son of Alexander, was confirmed in his land, including Hillcombe and Ashwell, by Abbot Richard *ante* 1238 (see No. 129 in this cartulary). He had a brother, Alexander, for whose murder Henry de Cerne was tried at the Assizes in 1242, but the jury returned a verdict of not guilty (Som. Pleas, No. 1141). It appears by a fine of 33 Hen. III, No. 24, that Henry afterwards married the widow. William was one of the sureties for Geoffrey de Bridport at the same Assizes in 1242 (Som. Pleas, No. 569). His name does not occur again in this period, and Walter succeeded him. He is found by Charter 64 in this cartulary in possession of land at La Seo which had been the gift of William de Sande to William de Loueni (*v.* title); and by this charter, No. 48, obtained a grant of other lands in La Seo from the abbey which they had of the gift of John de Loveny. In a fine of this year (47 Hen. III, No. 63), levied by John de Lovegny against Henry le Warener for property in Ilminster, Walter put in his claim. He must have been a person of some standing in the county, as he was sheriff in 1292, 1293. He was dead by 1298, as in Charter No. 124 of that year the abbot receives the homage and fealty of William, son and heir of Sir Walter, for the tenements of Hylecombe, Bolewyneshyhe, Ashwell, and La Wareneresitte; one of his sureties being Richard de Loveny, whose name occurs as a witness in this period to several charters in the Montacute cartulary. A fine of 1301 (29 Ed. I, 74), shows that William made a settlement of Hilcombe and other properties, but as the deed is not extant, its provisions are not known. He immediately

drops out, and Richard de Loueny is found in possession of lands in Ilminster, Cricket Malerbe, Est-Dowlish, and Knolle, which by a fine of 5 Ed. II, 17, he settled on himself and Margery his wife, remainder to their son John, remainder to Walter, his brother, and Joan and Avitia, his sisters. The brothers head the list of taxpayers in Ilminster in 1327, but are not heard of later. Gerard says that Alice, heiress of John de Louveney in the reign of Edw. III, married William Jordan (who gave his name to that place), and so the family of Louveny became extinct in the male line.

49. Charter of William Montacute concerning a rent of beasts or honey.

Acknowledgment by William de Monte Acuto and his heirs that they ought to pay every year from the park of Duneyete a fawn at Christmas, one moiety to the Abbot and the other to the Convent of Muchelney, and a buck at the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, likewise, and that he owes this rent for the acknowledgment of their wood of Dunegrave which he holds by hereditary right by their grant; if the said beasts cannot be found in his park within eight days of the said terms he and his heirs will pay them 1 sextarius of honey at Michaelmas, one moiety to the abbot and the other to the convent.

Donyat is a parish on the west side of Ilminster. William de Montacute is one of three of the same name who inherited Donyat in the thirteenth century previous to Simon, 1286.

50. Charter of Henry de Ortiaco concerning the breaking of the assise of Draiton, Ile, and Fifhide.

Grant by Henry de Ortiaco for the safety of his soul, the souls of his parents, Sabina, his wife, his heirs, and for the souls of Richard Revel, the elder, and Richard Revel, the younger, and Mabel, his wife, and of his own ancestors and successors, that if any of the men of Draitune, Yle, or Fifhide, of his lords the Abbots of Muchelney, whether free or serfs, shall hereafter fall into amercements in the hundred [courts] of Abbedic or of Bulestan on account of assises broken and the selling of ale, those mercies shall not exceed *4d.* whether they be brewers or men or women. Fol. xxxvij.

For the family of Urtiaco see notes on 28–32. They owned the franchise of the hundreds aforesaid.

51. Charter of Henry de Kammel concerning his land of Cammel [West].

Quitclaim by Henry de Cammel to St. Peter and the Abbot

and Convent of Muchelney of his land of Cammel with houses, buildings, meadow, and garden.

A Henry de Kamel had land in Batcombe in 1236, Ped. Fin., 20 Hen. III, No. 182.

52. Quitclaim of Roger de Horton concerning knight's service.

Quitclaim by Roger de Horton, for ever, to the Abbot of the Convent of Muchelney, of all his right which he had in the knight's service which he and his heirs ought to do for his tenement of Hortone.

Dated at Muchelney, on the day of St. Gregory, A.D. 1244.

Horton is a hamlet on the west side of Ilminster parish. See also No. 62.

53. Quitclaim of W. Haket concerning the ditch of Lambroke.

Quitclaim by William Haket, knight, lord of Little Merstone, of any right hereafter in the ditch of Lambroke, which is the boundary between his land in Little Merstone and the land of the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney in Cammel.

Fol. xxxviij. Dated at Muchelney, 25 Henry III, on the day of St. Margaret.

See note on No. 47.

54. Charter of Ralph de Vaus concerning 12*d.* to be received at the chapel of the infirmary and 12*d.* to the use of the sick at Bradeweye.

Grant by Ralph de Vaus to the church of Muchelney for the safety of his soul and the souls of his ancestors and successors, in pure alms, of 2*s.*, to be received yearly at Christmas at Bradeweye from the 20*s.* of his farm which Thomas de Bollonia is bound to pay to him yearly for the said land of Bradeweye, viz., 12*d.* to maintain the light of the chapel of the infirmary of the same place, and 12*d.* for the sick of the same infirmary.

55. Charter to Thomas de Bolonia concerning the said two shillings.

Notification to Thomas de Bolonia by Ralph de Vallibus of his grant to the monks of Muchelney of 2*s.* to be received yearly from his farm of Bradeweye.

56. Charter of Faramus de Bolonia concerning the said two shillings.

Attornment by Faramus de Bolonia, son of Thomas de Bolonia, to Richard le Dare, of Mideltone, to pay yearly to the monks of Muchelney for their infirmary, 4*s.*, to wit, 2*s.* of his own gift, and 2*s.* of the gift of Ralph de Vallibus, for which he is bound to acquit the same Ralph for the land of Bradweye, which he and his heirs hold of him.

54-56. Notwithstanding the heading to No. 54, it is plain from the contents of No. 56 that the gift of R. de Vaus was for the benefit of the monastic infirmary and its inmates. The family of Vaus (de Vallibus) was settled at Lanercost in Cumberland; but they are also found in possession of Ashill, Seavington (Vaus), and Seaborough, at the close of the twelfth century. Robert de Vallibus gave the advowson of Ashill to Bishop Joceline (1206-1244); which gift was confirmed by his mother Aalicia, the witness being J. Bp. of Norwich, *i.e.*, John Grey, 1200-1222 (Wells MSS., p. 23), Maud, daughter and heiress of his son Herbert, married Thomas de Multon, (*ob.* 1270). Seaborough became the property of Ralph de Vaus, most probably the donor in No. 54. He made a vicarious expedition in a Crusade in the person of John Gole, who on his safe return in 1229 received a farm in Seaborough (Coll., ii, 172). Ralph left an only daughter, Grecia, married firstly to Richard de Mucegros (Ped. Fin., 20 Hen. III, 203), and secondly to Eudo de Rochford (Ped. Fin., 40 Hen. III, 120).

William I gave Martock to the Earl of Bulloigne who seems to have settled one member of his family at the hamlet of Ash, called Ash-Bullen after its owners. One of them was the Faramus, son of Thomas, of Nos. 55, 56. He was living in 1240. Peter de Boloygne and Christina, his wife, levied a fine of lands in "Parva Bradewaye, Ashulle, Esse Boloigne and Mertoke" in 1311 (Ped. Fin., 4 Ed. II, 64). In the Tax Roll of 1327, John Boloyngne and William Dare appear in the lists for Stapleton and Milton in the parish of Martock.

These three charters may be dated about 1240.

57. Charter of Eustace de Deuolis concerning the exchange of an acre of land and a way.

A.D. 1225, on the day of St. George, at Ileministre, a chirograph was made between the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, and Eustace de Dovelis, viz., the said abbot and convent received in exchange of the land of Eustace 1 acre of arable land, having 35 perches in length and 5 in breadth and containing marl, upon the hill of Douelis, which formerly Thomas Grip held next to 4 acres which Robert de Hakepen formerly held in the same culture towards the east which extends rising from Weifurlang towards the north as far as Westlangelande; and from the head of the said acre the said Eustace made for

the abbot and his men a way (*chiminum*) alongside Westlangelande towards the west, as far as the boundaries of his own land and the land of John Malherbe, and thence towards the north in the headland of the said culture as far as the land of the abbot, of such width that two waggons (*carri*) or two carts (*carreta*) may conveniently pass each other; all the aforesaid to hold to the abbot and convent for ever, retaining nothing to the said Eustace and his heirs, for (*pro*) a meadow called Putmede, in the manor of Ileministre, which the abbot and convent gave Eustace in exchange of the said acre and road for ever.

Douelis is West Dowlish in Abdick Hundred. Eustace also held Wigborough in South Petherton in right of his wife, by serjeanty, that he should be usher in the hall of our Lord the King, 1243 (Som. Pleas, No. 1228).

Fol. xl. 58. Charter of Robert de Foxcome concerning four shillings yearly rent in Eswille.

Quitclaim by Robert de Foxcome with the assent of Gunnilda, his daughter and heir, for ever, to Richard the Abbot of Muchelney and his successors of 4*s.* which he was wont to receive yearly at Aswelle, in the manor of Ileministre, by the hand of Gervase Swetemut and Matilda, his wife, daughter of Alvred de Aswelle, who was wont to pay to him those 4*s.* For this Richard, the abbot, gave him 3 marks, and to Gunnilda, his daughter, 1 bezant.

Dated at Ileministre, 16 Kal., March, 15 Henry III.

58–60. Eswille, now Ashwell, is a hamlet on the north side of Ilminster. No. 58 belongs to the period 1198–1237. In 60 the mention of the priest of Eswelle implies a chapel there, which has not been noticed before.

59. Charter of John de Bremelham concerning land in Eswylle.

Grant by John de Bremelham to John, the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelney, of 3 acres of arable land in Aswelle, within the manor of Ileministre, viz., those 3 acres which lie between the land which Thomas Bele at one time held, on the west side, and the land which John le Cran held on the east side, to hold to the abbot and convent in free alms for ever. For this the abbot and convent gave him 40*s.*

Fol. xli. 60. Charter of the same John concerning seisin of the said three acres

John de Brumelham puts the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, by Robert, the priest of Eswelle, in seisin of the 3 acres of arable land, which he gave by the foregoing charter.

Dated at Ileministre, Friday after the Feast of St. Lawrence, 46 Henry III.

61. Charter of Thomas de Albo Monasterio concerning land of Yle.

Thomas de Albo Monasterio acknowledges that he did homage to Richard, the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, for the land of Lim Pestregerd with 2 acres of meadow, all which the abbot and convent granted to him for his homage and service, to hold of them for 2*s.* yearly.

This charter belongs to the period 1197–1237. The family of de Albo-Monasterio (Blancmusters) had land in the neighbourhood, probably at Fivehead. Richard de Blaminster made default in the Hundred of Abdick at the Assizes in 1242 (Som. Pleas, 1189, and 1296). Roger, son (query) of Richard de Albo-Monasterio, granted lands in Aysford, Bradene, and Hysebar to the Hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr of Akonia in 1260 (Ped. Fin., 44 Hen. III, 21 ; 52 Hen. III, 120. *See* Stubbs', *Lectures on Mediæval and Modern History*, pp. 209–212.) A Geoffrey de Albo-Monasterio came to a violent end in the Hundred of Bruton in 1225 (Som. Pleas, 231, 233, 237.)

Yle is Ile Abbots.

62. Chirograph in the court of the King concerning land in Horton granted to Robert de Brywis.

Final concord at Ivelcestre, in one month from Easter Day, 47 Henry III, between William de Wynterheye, plaintiff, and John, the Abbot of Muchelney, whom Richard de Hortone and Hawisia, his wife, vouched to warrant, of 1 messuage and 1 virgate of land in Horton, by which the said abbot acknowledged the said land to be the right of William, and for this William at the instance of the said abbot of Ileministre granted to Robert de Brywes the said tenement, to hold to Robert and his heirs of the said abbot and his successors and his church of St. Peter of Muchelney for ever, by the service which pertains to that tenement except suit at the court of the said abbot of Ileministre. Moreover, at the instance of the Fol. xlii. said abbot, Richard de Hortone and Hawisia granted to Robert de Brywes a certain other messuage and virgate of land in Horton, to wit, that messuage and virgate of land which they held in the same town on the day on which this concord was made, to hold to Robert and his heirs for ever by the service

which pertains to that tenement except suit at the court of the said abbot of Ileministre.

[Ped. Fin., 47 Hen. III, No. 37.]
William Winterhey has left his name to Winterhay Green, on the west side of Ilminster.

63. Charter of Ralph de Monte Sorello concerning land of Cleyhangre.

Quitclaim by Ralph de Monte Sorello to Sir John, the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, for ever, of all right which he had in all that land with the wood and meadow which he has of the gift of Robert de La Wdelande, saving service to himself and his heirs, concerning which land, wood and meadow he sued the said abbot by writ of the Lord the King at Westminster, before the justices for pleas. 42 Henry III.

Dated at Muchelney, on the morrow of the Conversion of St. Paul. A.D. 1257–8.

See notes on 18–20.

64. Charter of William de Sande concerning land which William de Loueni held of him.

William de Sande grants that Walter de Luveny and his heirs shall hold all the land which he had of his gift in La Seo, in the manor of Ileministre, of the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, doing therefor the homage and service to the said abbot and convent, which he and his ancestors were wont to do.

Fol. xxiij. Dated at Yleministre. Sunday after the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist. A.D. 1258.

See note on No. 48.

65. Charter of Hugh de Aula concerning a common which he had in Suthmore.

Quitclaim by Hugh de la Sale of Drayton to Sir William, the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney for ever, of all common of pasture which at one time he had in a certain moor of theirs called Suthmore in their manor of Drayton, pertaining to his free tenement of Drayton. He also grants for himself and his heirs that the said abbot and convent shall appropriate, whenever they wish, and as much as they can, of their moor called Purimore in the said manor without hindrance for ever.

Dated at Muchelney Tuesday after the quinzaine of Easter, viz., 13 April, A.D. 1277.

66. Chirograph of Robert de Monsorel concerning suit to be made at the court of Yleministre.

Whereas there was a plea between William the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, and Robert de Monte Sorelli in the court of the lord the King at Salop concerning services and customs, to wit, that the same Robert should do suit to them at their court of Ileministre from 3 weeks, to 3 weeks for the tenement which he holds of them in Estdilingtone. It is agreed that Robert and his heirs shall be quit for ever of the said suit in the form aforesaid. So that Robert and his heirs shall do to them for ever every year two suits at their court aforesaid, and likewise he as well as his heirs shall come to their court, whenever Fol. xliiij. there shall be a writ of the lord the King to be sued in the same court, or a person or persons to be indicted, as other their free men of the same manor, saving to them and their successors all the other services due and accustomed to them for the said tenement.

Dated at Muchelnye, on the morrow of the Epiphany A.D. 1277.

Dillington is a hamlet on the east side of Ilminster. Robert de Monsorel was a junior member of the family at Whitelackington. He seems to have thought that his relationship exempted him from appearing with the other suitors.

67. Chirograph of N. Pig concerning suit for a tenement in Westere Hylecumbe.

Acknowledgment by Nicholas Pyg that he will do two suits only every year to William the abbot of Muchelney, at his court of Ileministre, for a tenement which he holds in Westere Hylecumbe in the manor of Ileministre, and for which William Stantone, knight, and other tenants used to do suit from 3 weeks to 3 weeks.

Dated at Muchelney, Sunday, in the Feast of Holy Trinity, 10 Edward [1282].

The abbot is William de Gyvele, 1274–1293.

68. Charter of John de Ylecombe concerning land which is called Blowehey.

Grant by John de Hylecumbe to Richard the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelney, of all the land, called Blowehey, and all
Fol. xlv. the meadow which he had to the north of the water of Douelichford for ever.

The date of this charter lies in the period 1197–1237.

69. Chirograph of Simon de Hylecumbe concerning eight acres of land at La Seo round the new grange, and three acres of meadow in Hortemede.

Grant and confirmation by Simon de Hylecombe to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney for ever, of 8 acres of arable land in Yleministre, viz., those 8 acres which lie next to Hedeford on the east side, and are within the close made at La Seo round their new grange, and 3 acres of meadow in Hortemede, viz., those which lie in the head of the meadow of the abbot of Muchelney on the west side. For this the abbot and convent quitclaimed for themselves and their successors, to the said Simon and his heirs 8*s.* 8*d.*, of the yearly rent of 28*s.* 8*d.*, which he was wont to pay them for the land of Hylecumbe.

70. Charter of Simon de Hylecumbe concerning two shillings of yearly rent for remission of his service in the hundred of Abedike and in the court of Yleministre.

Acknowledgment by Simon de Hylecumbe, son of John de Hylecumbe, that he and his heirs are bound to pay to John, the
Fol. xlvj. Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney for ever 2*s.* yearly; and for taking this rent the abbot and convent remised to Simon and his heirs for ever, the service which he and his ancestors were wont to do for the manor of Yleministre, in the hundred of Abedike, and in their court of Yleministre, saving suit at their court of Yleministre which he and his heirs are bound to do as other free men of the same manor.

The Hundred of Abedike belonged to the family of De Urtiaco. Abbot, John de Barnevill 1251–1274.

71. Chirograph of Simon de Hylecumbe concerning 3 acres and a half of arable land at La Seo given for remission of a tithe of hay.

Grant and confirmation by Symon de Hylecumbe to John, the Abbot, and Convent of Muchelney for ever, of 3½ acres of arable land in the manor of Yleministre, viz., those 3½ acres

which lie at La Seo, next to Langeford on the west side, and for this the abbot and convent, for themselves and their successors, remised to the said Simon and his heirs the whole tithe of hay, which they were wont to receive from the demesne meadows of Simon in Hilecumbe and La Seo.

Dated at Muchelney, on Thursday after the Feast of St. Valentine, 46 Henry III [1262.] Memorandum that Edelyna relict of the said Simon, remised all pertaining to her in the name of dower in lands and the other things which the said Simon conferred on the monastery of Muchelney for a quarter of wheat and a quarter of oats to be received yearly while she lived. Fol. xlvij.

Abbot, John de Barnevill 1251–1274.

72. Charter of William de Loveni concerning an acre of meadow in Trendelmede.

Grant by William de Loveny to St. Peter and the Abbot and monks of Muchelney, of 1 acre of meadow in Trendelmede, which lies next the land of Simon de Hylecumba, called Stonham, on the south side, which acre Walter le Archer at one time held of him, to hold to the said abbot and convent in perpetual alms.

For the donor see note on No. 48. He was most probably the father of Sir Walter Loveny, whose name first appears in 1258, this charter being somewhat earlier.

73. Chirograph in the court of the King concerning common pasture of Wike.

Final concord in the court of the lord the King at Westminster on the Octaves of St. John the Baptist, 22 Henry III, between John de Parham, plaintiff, by Thomas de Parham put in his place, and Walter, the Abbot of Muchelney, deforciant, by Robert de la Wodeland put in his place, of common pasture in La Cnappe and La Clyve, which the said John claimed against the abbot as pertaining to his free tenement which he holds in Wyke ; and wherefore the same John complained that the abbot unjustly deforced him of the said common. The abbot granted that John and his heirs shall henceforth have Fol. xlviij. common pasture everywhere in La Cnappe and La Clyve for all kinds of beasts and cattle for ever, and for this John gave the abbot 5 marks.

See *Pedes Finium for Somerset*, p. 104, 22 Hen. III, 25 (1238). For the Perham family of Wike Perham, see note on No. 23.

74. Chirograph in the court of the King concerning a virgate of land in Fifhide.

Final concord in the court of the lord the King at Yvelcestre, on Friday after the Feast of St. John the Baptist, 3 Henry III, between Richard, the Abbot of Muchelney, plaintiff, and Richard Martin, tenant, of 1 virgate of land in Fifhide; and wherefore the said Richard Martin vouched to warrant Richard de Wrotham, who warranted to him. The said abbot of Muchelney quit-claimed for ever to the said Richard Martin and his heirs all right which he had in the said land, and for this Richard Martin gave the abbot 5*s*.

Somerset: Pedes Finium, 3 Henry III, No. 21. For the Wrotham family, see note on 36.

75. Chirograph in the court of the King concerning four shillings by the year from Burtone.

Final concord in the court of the lord the King at Yvelcestre on the morrow of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary, 9 Henry III, between William Golafre, plaintiff, and Richard, the abbot of Muchelney, tenant, of half a virgate of land in Burton, by which the abbot acknowledged the said land to be the right of William to hold to him and his heirs for ever, paying by the year 4*s*. for all service saving foreign service, and for this William gave the abbot half a mark.

See *Pedes Finium for Somerset*, p. 396, unnamed counties, 9 Hen. III. 38. Burton, now Burton Pynsent in Curry Rivel. In the same year William Golafre established his title to lands in Hambridge in the same parish, see reference as above.

76. Charter of Emma de Dilingtone.

Grant by Emma, daughter of Henry de Dilinton, for the souls of her father Henry, her mother Cristina, and her husbands Richard and Robert and her children and all the faithful
Fol. xlix. departed, &c., to the church of the Blessed Mary of Ileministre, and to the abbot of Muchelney, rector of the same church, of 9 acres of land in Dilinton, in the outer culture called Mapedre-huill towards the west, next the land of Richard Maloysel surrounded by an ancient ditch, so, to wit, that the said Richard Maloysel and his heirs shall hold them for ever of the said church and abbot in fee and inheritance, paying therefor yearly to the church of Ileministre 18*d*. for the necessary uses of the church,

to be kept in lay custody, and other 18*d.* yearly, viz., 6*d.* on the day of his obit, and 6*d.* on the day of his anniversary, of which 2*d.* shall be given to the chaplain who shall say the service, and 1*d.* to the bell-ringer, and 3*d.* shall be offered at mass, to be received by the vicar of the church. Commemoration shall also be made on every Sunday in the priest's prayer (*oratione*) before the parishioners for the souls of Emma and others departed. The said Richard and his heirs shall also pay at Muchelney in aid of a lamp burning before the cross 12*d.* to be offered every year upon the altar of the cross, so that the monks serving God there shall have her soul in their prayers and benefits, and her name be written in their martyrology. The said Richard and his heirs are bound to trench (*fossare*) and enclose the said ditch so that his cattle shall not have egress to the land of her heirs, and the cattle of her heirs shall not have ingress; and if any of her heirs wish to marl (*marlare*) in their culture of Mapedrehuill the said Richard and his heirs are bound to give sufficient marl from their marl pit, and to provide a way at the time of harvest (*messina*).

Dillington is on the east side of Ilminster. For a very early charter relating to its owner, see No. 126. As the family of Dillington are found in possession in the reign of Edward III, much later than the possible date of this charter; it is probable that Robert, husband of Emma, took his wife's name, for Robert de Dillington was alive in 1223, Som. Assize Rolls, No. 292; also in 1243, 27 Hen. III, 720. But he may have been her son. In the Tax Roll for 1327, under Ilminster, appear Richard de Dilyntone, paid xii*d.*; Johanna de Dylyntone paid xii*d.*; and John Maloysa paid iij*s.* See also No. 121. For some suggestions concerning the "ancient ditch," see an article in the *Som. and Dors. N. and Q.*, VI, pt. 44, No. 71.

77. Charter of Ralph de Monte Sorello concerning a pound of wax.

Acknowledgment by Ralph de Monte Sorello, son of Thomas de Monte Sorello, lord of Wiklacintone, that he and his heirs are bound to pay yearly to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney a pound of wax on the Feast of St. Michael in Monte gargano for a moor which lies next the park of Rokesbere on the west side from beyond the lake (*lacam*) called Chelkwylle, the boundary between the said abbot and himself, and which contains 1½ acre, and which the abbot gave him for his homage and aforesaid service to hold in hereditary right. If he or his heirs or the keepers of his tenement of Wiklacintone shall withhold Fol. 1.

payment of the said rent beyond the said term, it shall be lawful for the abbot to throw down (*prosternere*) the dike and enclosures around the said moor and to farm it without any gainsaying.

Probable date, c. 1250; see notes on Nos. 18–20.

78. Charter of Thomas de Chote concerning a pound of wax.

Grant by Thomas de Cotes, son of Vincent, by consent of his heir, to St. Peter and the monks of Muchelney in perpetual alms, of a pound of wax to be paid yearly at Muchelney at the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul from an acre of land in his land of Limberge for the safety of his soul, &c., which acre Adam de Kingesburi, son of Sewy, holds of him and his heirs by hereditary right, as is contained in his charter which he holds of him for the said pound of wax, which he is bound to pay yearly to the church of Muchelney to sustain a light while high (*majcr*) mass is celebrated on feast (*ferialibus*) days.

Fol. li. 79. Charter of confirmation of William Slavine.

Inspeximus and confirmation by William de Cote, son and heir of Thomas Slavine de Cote, of the preceding charter.

Cotes (Chote) now Coat is a hamlet in Martock. William de Sclavyn of Cotes was acknowledged life owner of lands in Cotes Mertok and Limberghe by a Ped. Fin. levied 18 Ed. I, 125 (1290). That his consent was necessary shows that he was the overlord of Thomas de Cotes in Limberghe. A gift of William Slavyn de Cote to the church of Martock is recorded in Wells MSS., p. 193, A.D. 1262; and see also p. 198.

80. Charter of William de Coker concerning a pound of wax.

Grant by William de Coker for his soul, and the soul of Joan, formerly his wife, to God and the Virgin Mary in the chapel of the Infirmary of Muchelney, of a pound of a wax in pure alms for ever, to be paid yearly at Michaelmas, while he lives, by his own hands; and to do this he has assigned the house, which John Peny at one time held of him in free fee, to the church of Gyvele, and whosoever shall hold the said house after his decease shall faithfully and without gainsaying pay the said pound of wax to the guardian of the sick of Muchelney, who for the time being shall be.

Gyvele=Yeovil. William de Cocre held property in that town in the reign of Henry III; *Historical Notes on South Somerset*, Coker, p. 139. The monastic infirmary has already been referred to in Nos. 54–56.

81. Charter concerning a pound of wax at Yvelcestre.

Acknowledgment by Richard, son of Hamon de Ivelcestria, the priest, that he and his heirs are bound to pay yearly and for ever to St. Peter at Muchelney a pound of wax for the souls of their ancestors, whose bodies lie there, in perpetual alms for a messuage, which Philip his brother at one time held.

Ivelcestre, in the church of St. John, A.D. 1226, on the morrow of St. Lawrence. Fol. lij.

The church of St. John at Ilchester was, with St. Mary Minor, united to St. Mary Major, 20 Apr. 1502. [Coll. III, 302.]

82. Charter concerning a gift of Thomas de Capres.

Grant by Thomas des Leges, knight, lord of Hurste, to St. Peter of Muchelney and the monks there for the safety of his soul and that of Agnes, his wife, etc., in free alms of 3*s.* yearly rent, to make a pittance from his land of Hurste, which Peter de Northfuk and Geva, his wife, hold of him. Anyone holding that land shall swear to pay the said rent yearly, and the almoner shall receive it. The monks have received him into their fraternity and participation of all good works to be done in their church. They have also granted to him during his life a special mass of the Holy Ghost within the week of Whitsunday.

83. Charter of Peter and Geva de Hurste.

Acknowledgment by Peter de Northfok and Geva, his wife, that they are bound to pay yearly at Easter to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, 3*s.* for a certain tenement which they hold of Thomas de Capres, the lord of Hurste in the same town.

84. Charles of Geva de Hurste concerning 2*s.* for a pittance. Fol. liij.

Grant by Geva de Hurste, with the consent of Peter de Northfuk, her husband, to the Abbot and monks of Muchelney, for the safety of her soul and that of the said Peter, of a messuage with a curtilage pertaining to the same in the street called "Puthlane" in the town of Gyvele, which is of the tenement of the greater church of that town; which messuage is on the west side of the house of Alexander, son of Elias Stoch, to hold to the said abbot and convent in free alms for

ever. The said Geva also wills that the almoner, who for the time being shall be, shall receive the rent of the said messuage, and shall make a pittance while she shall live as the convent shall dispose, and after her decease, on the day of her anniversary.

82—84. Hurst is a hamlet in Martock. The jurors of that Hundred presented Thomas de Capes for non-appearance on the first day of the Assizes, 1243 (*Assize Rolls, Som., S.R.S.* xi, 1069). The greater church in Yeovil is the present parish church of St. John's. For the "tenement" of the church there, see the presidential address of J. Batten, F.S.A., in the *Somerset Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.* XXXII, i, 20.

85. Charter of Ralph de Horsy concerning 2*s.* of yearly rent issuing from his meadow in Verham for the anniversary of William de Horsy.

"Jam Eadmundus Sayntelow tenet."[1]

Acknowledgment by Ralph de Horsy, son of John Bubbe of Horsy, that he and his heirs are bound to pay every year for ever, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney, 2*s.*, to make the anniversary of William de Horsy, his brother, who assigned the said 2*s.* for his anniversary from a certain meadow, called "Werham," which the said Ralph had of the gift of William de Horsy.

Muchelney, 3 Kal., May, A.D. 1274.

There is a Horsey's farm in Muchelney to this day. In the Taxation Roll of 1327, Richard Horsey paid 3*s.* 9*d.*, and Juliana Horsy 2*s.* 6*d.*, in Muchelney. See also No. 118.

86. Charter of Richard le Waleys concerning two acres of land given to make a pittance on the day of the anniversary of Emma, his wife.

Grant and confirmation by Richard le Waleys, the Lord of Staweye, to the Abbot and monks of Muchelney, for the safety of his soul and that of Emma his wife and those of his ancestors,
Fol. liv. of 2 acres or about that (*vel circa id*) of arable land of his demesne at Staweye, of which one lies on the west side of la Langeforde, next the road (*iter*) and the other in the culture of Staweye, of which one head extends upon Hecenemede, and the other to the way (*viam*) which leads towards la Lupiþete, in pure alms free from every worldly (*mundiali*) obstacle, so, to

[1] Later marginal note.

wit, that the almoner of the same place, who for the time being shall be, shall take the whole emolument of the said land to make a refection for his brethren on the day of the anniversary of the said Emma every year for ever, rendering nothing therefor to him or his heirs, except their special prayers.

Muchelnye, A.D. 1255, 3 Kal., June.

Staweye, now Stowey, is a manor in the parish of Fivehead, called by Collinson (I, 40) "Staye." In 1225, Robert and Luke, sons of William Walens of Staweie, were accused at the Assizes of consorting with malefactors, but they obtained a verdict in their favour. In 1253 the Dean and Chapter of Wells and Richard le Waleys with Geoffrey de Scoland came to an amicable agreement concerning their respective rights in North Curry, Cathanger, and Stawey ; Ped. Fin., 47 Hen. III, No. 70.

87. Chirograph of Geoffrey de Scoylaunde concerning his anniversary.

Grant by Geoffrey de Scoylaunde to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye, of an acre of meadow in Ylemore in free alms for the safety of his soul, and that of Emma, his wife, and that of Richard, his son, and for the souls of Geoffrey de Scoylaunde, his father, and Juliana, his mother, and of Richard de Wrotham, to wit, that acre which lies in La Challe between the meadow of Robert de Cerne on the west side, and the meadow of Robert de Wodeford on the east, and extends towards the south upon the bank of the Yle, with the whole length and breadth as the other acres on both sides, to hold to the said abbot and convent without doing any service to him or his heirs except the special prayers of their house. The pittancer of Muchelnye, who for the time being shall be, shall take the whole emolument issuing from the said acre of meadow during his life, and shall provide therewith a pittance to the abbot and convent, the same to be made after his death on the day of his anniversary yearly. And the abbot and convent have granted to him that after his death his name shall be inscribed in their martyrology, to be recited yearly on the day of his anniversary, and to be carried with the obituary notices of their deceased brethren, soon after his death, all over England to be solemnly mentioned in all monasteries of the realm.

(*Et audito obitu meo concesserunt mihi predicti Abbas et conventus quod nomen meum in martirologio suo scribatur singulis annis die anniversarii mei recitandam* [sic] *et cum breviculis*

fratrum suorum proximo post obitum meum defunctorum per totam Angliam deferatur in singulis regni monasteriis pie absolvend').

For the donor's family see note on No. 36.

Canon Holmes has forwarded this note on the last paragraph: "Breviculum is clearly the short note sent around on the death of a brother to the monasteries affiliated to a mutual prayer union to inform the monks of the death. Lay brethren and others were admitted for special consideration to this benefit of intercession. Absolvend' appears to mean that his name should be solemnly mentioned in the roll when the missa pro defunctis was celebrated. Having his name so entered would ensure a mass for his soul every year as they were mentioned from the martyrology whose names were down each day. This I fancy is the true meaning of the passage."

Fol. lv. 88. Charter of G. Loreng concerning a pound of pepper or sixpence to the kitchen.

Acknowledgment by Geoffrey Loreng that he and his heirs are bound to pay every year a pound of pepper, or *6d.* to the kitchen of the monks of Muchelney, at Michaelmas, and that they owe this rent to the monks for 2 ponds (*lacis*) which they farmed by their grant for the repair of their (*nostri*) mill, concerning which there was once a controversy between them.

I cannot find any other reference to the donor, or to the date of his gift.

89. Charter of Matilda Kotyn concerning two tenements [in Yvel]cestre given to Adam Galeys.

Grant by Matilda Kotin [*] and heir of Geoffrey Kotin, of Yvelcestre, to Adam Galays of Muchelnye for his homage and service, of all her tenements, viz., one tenement in the west street of Yvelcestre, situated between the tenement of Walter Lune and the tenement of Robert Liggenorne, and the other tenement towards the north gate of Yvelcestre, situated between the tenement pertaining to the church of St. Mary the Less of Yvelcestre, and the tenement of William de Spegeton', to hold to him and his heirs for ever, paying yearly to the bailiffs of Yvelcestre at Hocked[ay] for the said two tenements *2d.* called "Wrthin gabel," for all service pertaining to her and her heirs.

Fol. lvi. 90. Charter of Adam Galeys concerning two tenements in Yvelcestre.

Grant by Adam Galeys of Muchelney, by consent of Matilda Kotin his wife, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye in free alms of all his tenements in Yvelcestre, to wit, two tenements

(described above) which the said Matilda gave to him in her full power.

89–90. The first part of 89 is cut away. Geoffrey father of Matilda was witness to a deed relating to lands in Ilchester given in Bruton Cartulary No. 305 also without date, but Thomas de Cyrencester, another witness, was sheriff of the county 1229–1239. Hugh Kotyn of Ilchester is mentioned in the Assize Roll 1242–3. Hock-day otherwise Hock-Tuesday, the second Tuesday after Easter, quindena Paschæ.

91. Charter of J. Molendarius concerning one messuage in Eswille.

Grant by John de Molendino, son of John de Molendino, to the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye, in free alms, of 4½ acres of arable land, and 1½ acres and 1 perch of meadow in the manor of Yleministre, which came to him by hereditary right after the death of John, his father, 3 of which acres lie in Bradelaunde under the curtilage of Robert le Prior, and 1½ acres in Littlecrofte, and the whole meadow in Hummede, and 1 messuage in Eswille with a curtilage which he had of the gift of Emma, daughter of Robert Sancto Claro, and of Anastasia daughter of Thomas Kabz; to hold to the said abbot and convent for ever, paying for the said curtilage to the said Emma, 1 clove (*clavum gariofili*) every year, and to the said Anastasia 1 farthing yearly. Anastasia, daughter of Thomas Kabz, and Emma, daughter of Fol. lvij. Richard de Sancto Claro, quitclaimed the above-named messuage and curtilage by their writings.

Eswille is now Ashwell in the parish of Ilminster. There was a family of "de Molendino" settled at Drayton in South Petherton at the close of the thirteenth century.

92. Charter of Hugh Smith (*Fabri*) of Brugewalter concerning half a burgage given to Ralph Dyer (*Tintori*).

Grant by Hugh Smith (*Faber*) to Ralph Dyer (*Tintori*) of Brugewalter, of half a burgage in the borough of Brugewalter, situated between the house of William de Dodesham and the house of John Witloc, to hold to him and to his heirs for ever, paying therefor to the lord of the borough 6*d.*; and for this the said Ralph gave him 5 marks in hand, and to his wife 12*d.* for shoes (*ad calciamenta*).

93. Charter of William, son of Ralph Dyer (*Tintoris*), concerning Brugewalter.

Grant by William de Brugewalter, son of Ralph Dyer (*Tintoris*), of Brugewalter, to the Abbot and monks of Muchelney, of half a burgage in the said vill of Brugewalter, which he had of the gift of his brother Ralph, and which is situated between the burgage, which was of William de Boddesham (*sic*), and the burgage of Nicholas Witloc, to hold to the said abbot and convent in free alms for ever, paying yearly to the lord of the said town of Brugewalter 6*d.*

94. Charter of the convent concerning a demise of the said half burgage at fee farm to the said H. Smith (*Fabro*).

Fol. lviij. Demise by John [Abbot of Muchelney], &c., to Walter, son of the priest, of a messuage in the town of Brugewalter, which they had of the gift of William, son of Ralph Dyer (*Tintoris*), of Brugewalter, and which is situated before the house of William de Dudesham, and the house of Nicholas Witloc; to hold to the said William and his heirs of the abbot, and his successors, paying yearly 3*s.* It shall not be lawful for William, his heirs or assigns to sell, bequeath or assign the said messuage to any religious house, to the lord of the town of "Bruges," or to a Jew (*judaismo*), or any other.

92–94. Abbot John, most probably John de Barnville, 1251–1274.
The Dodisham family took their name from that place in the parish of Cannington.

95. Charter concerning houses in Yvelcestre, to the west of the church of St. Mary the Less.

Grant [by the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney] to their beloved and faithful friend Robert Brun, of Yvelcestre, for his homage and service, of their houses in Yvelcestre, viz., those which were of Ingram (*Engeranni*), and Emma his wife, and situated to the west of St. Mary the Less "ad stallos"; to hold to the said Robert and his heirs, by hereditary right for ever, paying after the decease of Emma 4*s.* yearly. And for this Robert gave them 1 mark for a fine (*gersuma*).

Fol. lix. Muchelney, 5 John, May 16th.

St. Mary the Less. For this Church see Note on No. 81 and No. 89.

96. Item. Charter concerning the same houses of Yvelcestre.

Grant [by the Abbot and Convent of Muchelney] to Matilda, daughter and heir of Robert Brun of Yvelcestre for her homage and service, of their houses in Yvelcestre, which they

gave to Robert Brun, her father, as in the preceding charter and 2½ acres of land, which the same Robert held of them by hereditary right, which are without the south gate towards the east, next to the king's highway (*chimino regali*); to hold to her and heirs by hereditary right for ever, paying 4*s.* yearly, which the chanter of the church of Muchelney shall take for repairing the books of the same; to wit, at Easter 12*d.*, at the feast of St. John the Baptist 12*d.*, at Michaelmas 12*d.*, and a pound of pepper, or 6*d.* in the same term to the kitchen of the monks, and at Christmas 12*d.* For this grant the said Matilda gave them two marks.

Stoke, 6 John, March 5th.

97. Confirmation of Ralph de Monte Sorello concerning land, wood and meadow, which Robert de la Wdelande gave to the monastery of Muchelney, the charter concerning which will be found above.

Inspeximus and confirmation by Ralph de Monte Sorello, son of Thomas de Monte Sorello of the charter of Robert de la Wudelande, as on folio xv. Fol. lx.

Muchelney, conversion of St. Paul the Apostle, A.D. 1257.

See charter No. 63, also No. 20. Collinson (i, 12) says that the neighbouring parish of Ashill belonged, *post conquestum*, to the family of Hull. It had certainly passed to the family of De Vallibus in the episcopate of Bishop Joceline 1206–1244, and from them to de Molton, so that Henry Hulle's claim seems very precarious.[1]

98. Concerning the church of Somertone, and the liberties of the Abbot of Muchelney, and other acts before Solomon de Roffa, Richard de Boilonde, Robert Fulco, and William Breibef, justices in eyre, at Somertone, A.D. 1280, and in the eighth year of the lord the King Edward.

In the manor of Somertone.

They say that the church of Somertone was at one time in the gift of the King, and is worth 20 marks by the year, and the Abbot of Muchelney now holds it to his own uses, and they know not by what warrant, therefore let him be distrained. The vicarage of the same church was in the gift of the King, and is now in the gift of the said abbot, and is worth 100*s.* by the year, and the abbot says that he and his predecessors

[1] Contra clamium Henric Hull pro secta. (On margin in a more recent hand.)

held the said church with the vicarage, from the time of King Henry I, to their own uses, and that it is so; he asks that enquiry be made; and the knights elected for this, together with twelve jurors, say upon their oath that the abbot and his predecessors held the said church to their own uses, from time immemorial, without (*absque hoc*) the King or his ancestors having anything in the said church, therefore he may go without a day, &c.

99. Item concerning the same church.

The jurors also present that the Abbot of Muchelney takes yearly to his church, from the demesne of the King, in the field of Somertone, a waggon load of wheat, as much as a waggon can carry and eight oxen can draw, and also from the demesne meadow of the King a waggon load of hay, as much as a waggon can carry and eight oxen can draw, and they know not by what warrant. And the abbot comes and says that he and his predecessors had, and received, the said waggon loads of wheat and hay in pure alms of the gift of the king, and finds the said church seised from time immemorial, and he asks that enquiry be made; and the knights elected for this, together with 12 jurors, say upon their oath that the said abbot and his predecessors had the said waggon loads of wheat and hay, from the demesne of the King of ancient royal (*reali*), grant freely without any composition or challenge, in pure and perpetual alms from time immemorial, therefore he may go without a day, &c.

See also No. 112.

Fol. lxi. 100. Item concerning the same manor.

The jurors also present that the Abbot of Muchelney holds half a virgate of land in Herdecote, which at one time was in the hands of the ancestors of the king, who gave the said land to the abbey in free alms, to provide a chaplain to celebrate mass in the chapel of Herdecote three times a week. And the abbot comes and says that he and his predecessors held the said virgate of land from time immemorial, in pure alms without doing any service therefor, and finds his church seised and annexed as is aforesaid. And he asks that enquiry be made; and the knights elected for this, together with 12 jurors, say that the said land pertains to the church of Somertone, and is annexed

to the church without doing any service therefor, and from time immemorial, therefore he may go without a day, &c.

The chapel of Herdecote, now Hurcott, is not mentioned in the Chantry Survey, 1548 (S.R.S. vol. ii).

101. Names of the knights elected to make the aforesaid inquisitions:—

Andrew Wake, Elias Cotele, Robert de Sancto Claro, William de Stauntone, William de Panton, Philip de Wyke, Robert Malherbe, Richard de Bolonia, Walter de Pancefot, Richard de Cantelupe, John de Blakeford, Osbert de Bathonia, Richard de Heidone, Robert de Radyntone, and William de Bere, together with 12 jurors of the Hundred of Somertone foreign.

102. Concerning the liberty of the Island of Muchelnye.

The abbot of Muchelnye claims to hold the island of Muchelnye free without (*absque hoc*) the sheriff or his bailiffs having entry to make any distraint there which pertains to the office of sheriff, and claims for himself and his tenants of the same island that they ought not to come to any summons of the justices or any other ministers of the King. And he has there infangenethef, chattels of felons, and all amercements issuing from pleas in the said island, gallows, assise of bread and beer, tumbrel, pillory, view of frank-pledge, estray, waif, and warren, and two fairs a year, one at the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul (29th June) and the other at the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula (1st August), and he says that he and his predecessors used the aforesaid liberties from the conquest of England without interruption. And he asks that enquiry be made. And the knights elected for this, together with 12 jurors of the hundred, say upon their oath that the said abbot and his predecessors always held the said island quit from all geld; and that by reason of the aforesaid tenure of the island neither the abbot, his predecessors, nor any tenants of the island ever came outside the island before any justices or sheriffs or others, and that he and his predecessors fully used all the other liberties without interruption; therefore he may go without a day, &c.

103. Names of the knights elected to make the aforesaid inquisition, together with 12 jurors of the hundreds of Somertone

foreign, Abbedich and Bulston. John de Attone, Robert de Sancto Claro, Walter de Loveni, Robert Malherbe, William de Stauntone, Walter Pauncefot, Richard de Bolonya, Richard de Cantelupo, Osbert de Bathonia, Robert de Radyntone, John le
Fol. lxij. Seler, Pharamus de Widecumbe, together with the said jurors of the 3 hundreds aforesaid.

104. In the hundred of Abbedik, Ileministre.

The abbot of Muchelnye was summoned to answer by what warrant he claims to have one fair a year, viz., on the vigil and on the day of the Assumption of St. Mary (15 August), and one market on Saturday at Ilemynstre, and by what warrant he claims to have infangenethef, gallows, assise of bread and beer, tumbrel, pillory, view of frank-pledge, estray and waif, in the same manor.[1] And the abbot comes and says that he and his predecessors, from time immemorial, viz., from the time of King Henry great grandfather of the now King, and before, held all the said liberties. And he asks that enquiry be made. And the knights elected for this, together with 12 jurors of the hundred of Abbedick say, that the abbot and his predecessors, from time immemorial, had one fair a year, viz., on the vigil and on the day of the Assumption, and one market on Saturday at Ileminstre. And the abbot has hitherto used infangenethef, gallows, &c., in the same manor.

They also say that the said abbot has assise of beer, tumbrel, estray and waif, in the manor of West Cammel; therefore he may go without a day.

Item in the same hundred concerning bridges.

Concerning bridges, they say, that the abbot of Muchelnye ought to repair the bridge of Douelisforde, and the abbot comes and says that certain of his free tenants hold the land around the said bridge on both sides of his fee, so that he has nothing there in demesne by which he ought to repair the bridge. And he asks that enquiry be made; and this same is testified by the jurors, therefore the sheriff is commanded to distrain Walter Briz, Roger de la See, Adam Munjoye, Richard de Loveni, John atte More, Baldwin de Muriet, and William de Cantok, together with the villeins of the abbot, whose lands are adjacent to the bridge, to make the bridge, &c.

[1] Catalla felonium et omnia amerciamenta in villa predicta. (Written between lines in a later hand.)

Nos. 98–104 are copies of the pleas at the great Assize of 1280, which as the object of the King and his judges was to find out by what warrant every claim to an invasion of the royal prerogative or property was sustained are generally known as the Quo Warrento rolls. The Abbot, luckier than many of his neighbours, was able to preserve all his privileges, which in the case of the Island of Muchelney were of a very extensive character.

fol. lxii*d*. CARTA FRODE ABBATIS.

105. In nomine Domini nostri Jhesu Christi! Ego Bealthun, rogatus ab abbate Frode, aliquam partem fluminis Pedrete ad capturam pissium qui vocatur Swynwere pro remedio anime mee donans dedi enim hanc vero donacionem pistatorii habeat in proprio dominio sub privilegii racione ut nullus audeat eam irritam aut fractam facere sed in perpetuum ad solacium servorum Dei maneat intemerata, ad munificenciam hujus donacionis Aldelmus episcopus et Yny rex Saxanorum gentis propriis + manibus signum crucis + subscripserunt. Si quis vero tyrannica potestate + fretus voluerit hanc donacionem frangere, sciat se racionem in extremo judicio redditurum Domino Deo nostro. Scripta sunt hec septingentesimo viij anno + Incarnacionis Christi sexta indicione.

It is difficult to believe in the authenticity of this grant, from the nature of the property conveyed, and because it is dated by the era of the Incarnation as early as 708, and Aldhelm and Ine are made to subscribe their crosses by their own hands. The choice of these two witnesses is suspicious. Although this method of corroboration is found in early charters, it is also extensively used by the forgers of Malmesbury, Glastonbury, and other charters. Bealdhun, the donor, occurs as a witness to the spurious grant of Ine in the Malmesbury chartulary (*Cart. Sax.*, i, 158), and the abbot Froda also appears amongst the witnesses. A Frod witnesses undoubted Kentish charters about 700 (*ib.* i, 142, 143; *cf.* 108). Much of the wording of this deed agrees with that of the following charter of Ine, but this is not necessarily a ground of objection, for private deeds are frequently drawn up in the formulæ used by the Anglo-Saxon kings.

fol. lxiij. AHTBEGONIS POSSESSIO.[1]

LIBERTAS.

[2]106. In nomine Jhesu Christi Salvatoris nostri. Quamvis Fol. lxiij. enim sermones fidelium personarum ad noticiam alicujus donacionis in curriculo presentis temporis sufficiant ea tamen que pro amore omnipotentis Dei aut data vel facta sunt in aliqua donacione debemus indiciis literarum cum ydoniis testibus roborare.

Nam ego Yny Saxanorum regnum Domino adjuvante aliquam terre in loco qui dicitur Athom[8] unam mansam fratri Begano cum parte fluminis Pedrit ad piscandum et[4] ad eum jure sect'[5] pertinet, pro remedio anime mee dedi hanc enim donacionem quam libenter contuli ei habeat ipse in dominico[6] potestates[7] proprie et nullus contra venire tirannica potestate fretus audeat. Si quis vero voluerit hanc donacionem frangere aut irritam facere, sciat se racionem in tremendo judicio redditurum Domino Deo vivo et vero. Hec vero munificencia scripta est anno septingentesimo secundo incarnacionis Jhesu Christi Domini nostri xv[a] indicione.

Hec sunt hujus agelli teritoria. In oriente the Rede leygh et deinde on Lanschareweye nytherwardon deinde on an diche in a meroe.[8]

[1] This rubric consists of the O.E. æht, "possession, property," and of the name of the donee, and then a Latin translation of *aht.* After *Libertas* is an erased *Aht.* The scribe has, no doubt, copied this from an endorsement on the original charter, for he has clearly failed to understand it. In early charters the O.E. personal names ending in *-a*, such as *Offa*, are occasionally Latinised as *-anus*; hence this name may represent an O.E. *Beaga*, a name that is otherwise unrecorded.

[2] We have here the same difficulty as in No. 1 in deciding upon the authenticity of any charter ascribed to Ine. The grant of the river is, however, an argument against its authenticity.

[3] Ham, near Muchelney? O.E. *æt hām* (indeclinable dative), "at the village," although one would expect, from the modern name, *æt hamme*, "at the meadow."

[4] Read *que.*

[5] Read *secularí?*

[6] MS. *dnēo.*

[7] Altered, apparently, to *potestatis.*

[8] MS. *moe.* Blundered for *mor*, "fen"?

Translation.

On the east the red lea, and thence to below the land-boundary-way; thence to a ditch in (*or* to) a fen (?).

ADDITIONS.

107. Charter of the sacristy concerning the meadow of Estmore.

Assignment by John [de Barnevill], abbot of Muchelnye, with the assent of his brethren, to the sacristy of his church, of

6 acres of the meadow called "Estmore" which lie between the meadow of Geoffrey de Barnevyle and the meadow of William Lythfot which they hold of him in the same moor. Which said 6 acres John de Aure, then sacristan, caused to be enclosed with a ditch. To have and to hold freely and quietly with free entry and exit for ever. Paying 10*s.* yearly to him who shall have charge of covering the chapter, the cloister, the dormitory, and the refectory, and repairing the conduit when necessary.

Dated on the day of St. Barnabas the Apostle, A.D. 1266.

108. Concerning a messuage and curtilage and the pasture of Berdham.

Assignment by William [de Gyvele], Abbot of Muchelnee, at the instance of his brethren, to their kitchen, of a messuage and curtilage in their town of Myddelnee which Robert Triacle once held, and that meadow at the north of the same town which is called Berdham. To hold and to have freely &c. for ever. Paying 22*d.* yearly to the Chamberlain of Muchelnye who for the time shall be for the messuage and curtilage; and 15*s.* for the meadow, viz., 6*s.* to the sacristan to sustain a daily light, mortar, or lamp in the parish church of St. Peter. Also 2*s.* to the pittancer to make a pittance to the convent on the day of St. Petronilla. On the same day 18*d.* to provide one sextary of wine "for us and our successors." Also 5*s.* on the day of St. Luke the Evangelist to the pittancer to make a pittance for the said convent on the day of the anniversary of King Athelstan, and 6*d.* for alms on the same day. Muchelnye, 12 Kal., June, A.D. 1277.

109. Confirmation of the charter of Richard Revel, the elder, of two parts of the service of a knight and of 3 *ringe* of wheat and one sextary of honey for the manor of Dunheved.

(Dunhedd juxta Cammel Abbatis.)

Acknowledgment by Richard Reuel, the elder, that he and his heirs owe to his lord Richard, the abbot, and the convent of Muchelney and their successors two parts of the service of a knight in money, whereof five parts make the full service, for the land of Dunheved which he holds of the abbot, whether the knight whom the abbot owes to the King shall be in the expedition or the scutage shall run in the county. Besides they must pay every year at Muchelney for the souls of their

ancestors and successors on the day of St. Peter ad Vincula 3 *ringe* of wheat and one sextary of honey for the refection of the convent.

Hiis testibus Willelmo de Monteacuto, Rogero Huscarle, Radulfo de Furnell, Willelmo Daco, Osberto filio Willelmi, Philippo de Horsie, Hugone de Gyvelton, Henrico de Spekynton, Willelmo de Draycote, Simone de la Slo, Willelmo de Luvenni.

Langport, in the court of the said Abbot Richard, 6 March, 12 John.

For the family of Rivel see notes on Nos. 28–32. The list of witnesses is interesting. William de Montacute, ancestor of the Earls of Salisbury, died 1216. Roger Huscarle, of Eastrip in Breuham, descended from Huscarle left in possession by the Conqueror. Ralph de Furnell, later Fourneaux; an individual of that name held lands of the Bishop of London there and in Middlesex, 1210–2 (*Lib. Ruber*, 541–2). Henry de Furnellis in the reign of King John obtained a footing in this county by marriage with Joan, daughter and heir of Robert Fitzwilliam. William Dacus, of Sock Dennis, founder of White Hall in Ilchester. Philip de Horsi of Horsy near Bridgewater (*Som. Arch. Proc.*, 43, ii, 84, 85). Hugh de Givelton, mentioned in a charter to Bruton by his grandson William 1251 (*Brut. Cart.*, 303). Henry de Speckington; his family owned the place until the reign of Edward II. William de Draycote, of Draycote in Limington. He held 2 knight's fees in Redlynch in right of his wife (*Ped. Fin.*, 3 Hen. III, No. 17). Simon de la Slo, of Sloo now Slow Court, in West Camel; he was dead 23 Hen. III (*vide* a *Ped. Fin.*, 23 Hen. III, No. 29). There seems to have been another Simon de la Slo, of Slough Court, in North Curry, living about this period (Wells Cathedral MSS., pp. 156, 296), but the first-named is probably the witness. William de Luveni, of Ilminster.

110. Memorandum that on 18 Kal. Dec. Sir Henry de Urtiaco did homage and fealty to Sir Ralph, Abbot of Muchelney, in the chamber of the abbot in the presence of Master Henry de Somersete, Sir Ralph, vicar of Cammel Regis, John de Horstede, Robert son of Thomas de Drayton, John de Burtune, Ralph de Suttone, Robert Dauid, John de Gyvelton and many others for the service which he owes for Dunhevede, A.D. 1297. And he acknowledged that he owed the service of two parts of a knight's fee to the abbot and his successors; whereof five parts make a full knight's fee.

For de Urtiaco see notes on 28–32. Ralph de Muchelney had been abbot since 1293.

III. Bounds of Kingsbury.

[1]Þys sy[n]den þa[2] lande ȝemeƞ atte Kyngesbury erest on Pedridan op ⁊ alang stremes on Lambrokes[4] ȝemoure[3] op ⁊ alang Lambrokes to Schepton ȝemer to þe þrires dyke adoun þer to þere lake ⁊ lancke þere dyke adoun to Foulenbroke alang Foulenbroke out on a Moure to þan Northlangpulle forþ by Lanpulle by Northen Pendanmede wyþ Myddelnyes Lanpulle of þan Lanpulle to þornylake fornesen Thorny Myddewarde on Southhal oþ on an lake fornesen Esthele yn an Horsyes Northlandpulle forþ out on an Moure est on Pedrenstreme.

Thys beth Kyngesbery landboundes.

[1] These boundaries are added in a late fifteenth century hand. There is some confusion between the O.E. characters þ and p.

Translation.

These are the boundaries of the land at Kingsbury: First to the Parret; up along the stream to the mouth (?)[3] of Lambrook; up along Lambrook to the boundaries of Shepton (Beauchamp); to the Thrir (?) dyke (or ditch); down it to the brook ("lake"); along the dyke down to the foul brook; along the foul brook out to a moor (fen)[5] to the north land-pill; forth by the land-pill by the north of Penda's meadow by the Middleney land-pill; from the land-pill to Thorney brook ("lake") over against the middle of Thorney[6]; to south Heale to a brook ("lake") over against East Hele; into the north land-pill of Horsey; forwards to a moor (fen) east to the stream of Parret.

These are the bounds of the estate of Kingsbury.

[2] Read *þa*.
[3] For *gemyðe*?
[4] Recorded in the name of the village of Lambrook.
[5] West *Moor*, near Middleney.
[6] Thorney island.

112. Memorandum concerning the church and liberties of Somertone.

The Abbot of Muchelnye is parson of the church of the said manor. The Queen shall have from her demesne 10 acres of wheat not tithed, and the abbot shall take from the demesne of the Queen by her bailiffs a waggon load of wheat as much as a waggon can carry and 8 oxen draw, and from the demesne

meadow of the Queen, by the assignment of the bailiff, a waggon load of hay as much as a waggon can carry and 8 oxen draw, and so it was used from time immemorial.

They also say that there is a certain church in the same manor, and is to the proper uses of the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye and so was from time immemorial, and this was sufficiently proved before S. de Ruffr and his fellows in his last eyre of this county.

A condensed account of the pleas in Nos. 98, 99.

113. Letters patent of King Henry [VI] granting to John, the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, in consideration that they have to provide two keepers in his forest of Nerechuch, in Co. Somerset, of four does in the summer and four does in the winter, to be taken yearly within the said forest.

Westminster, 15 November, 23 Henry [VI].

114. Order by King Henry [VI] to the keeper of his forest on this side Trent to deliver every year to John, the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelney, 4 does in the summer, and 4 does in the winter.

Westminster, 15 November, 23 Henry [VI].

Abbot John, Chard 1433–1463. The variations in the spelling of "Neroche" are endless.

115. Grant by Thomas de Parham, for the souls of his father and mother &c. in perpetual alms, to the chapel of St. Margaret situated in his court of Wyke, and to Nicholas, the chaplain, who was the first presented to the same and to his successors, of 31½ acres of arable land and 25½ acres of meadow, of which 1 acre lies of Ekewelle, half an acre on the north side of Ekewelle, next the land of William, son of William Baldewyny, half an acre upon Estbuttuke, 1 acre in Wodefurlang, in the west field, 1 acre upon the hill between the land of William, son of Baldewyn on both sides, 1 acre in the west field between the lands of Alexander, half an acre in Mannisggestere which lies between the land of Thomas de Parham and the way towards Cury, and 3 acres of meadow which Richard Balsich at one time held, 2 acres of meadow in la Mere, 2 acres of meadow next la Smethette, 1 acre at Ekewelle, half an acre on the south side of Manniggestre, half an acre in

Estbuttuke, 1 acre in Wodefurlang, and 2 acres of the tenement of Edmund, and 2 acres in la Mere. Also 1 acre in Blakelond, half in Estmere, 1 acre on the west side of the spring under the hill, 1 acre on the east side of the spring in Wodefurlang, 1 acre in Westbuttuke next the land of Ralph de Munsorello towards the east, 1 acre in Estwodefurlang in exchange of an acre which lies in the court of Thomas de Parham, 1 acre on the south side in Portfurlang, 1 acre in Suthdon, 1 acre in Saiflonde, 2 sections in the same culture towards the west, 1 acre at the head of la Coppedeweye, half an acre called Forherd at the head of the villenage in Estbuttuke; and 2 acres of meadow lie on the west side of Niwere, and 2 acres extend towards the moor of Westover; also half an acre next the park of Cory, 1 acre and 1 perch in Wodefurlang next the land of Alexander, 1 acre which was of Herman; 3 perches lie upon la Gorwoldesye; 1 acre in la Gore and Brodecrofte, 2 acres in Schortebreche, half an acre at the head of la Schortebreche, 1 acre on the south side of the mill of Wyke, 1 acre upon la Suthdone between the lands of Alexander, half an acre there between the lands of Alexander and the land of Stephen de Parham, 3 perches upon la Suthdone next the land of William Baldewin, half an acre in Radaclyve, 1 acre next Ekewelle of the land of Herman, 1 acre in Blakelonde, and 2 acres of meadow which were of Herman in la Mere, half an acre in la Mere of the demesne, also 2 acres of meadow extend towards la Smethette, 1 acre of meadow next the meadow of William Baldewyn at Muneketuneshevede, 2 acres lie at the head of that acre, 2 acres extend towards the moor of Westovere, 1 acre on the north side of the "parret" of William Baldewyn which extends upon the moor of Westovere, also the tenements of Hugh Niweman and Adam le Hoper, and that which Edmund at one time held, with la Wythegham and la Splottidole, and pasture for 6 oxen in la Smethette, to hold all the aforesaid lands &c. saving to him and his assigns the right of presenting to the said chapel as often as it shall be necessary. If he or his assigns shall not present within forty days after a vacancy it shall be lawful for the bishop of Bath and Wells to provide a fit person. Hiis testibus, Domino Willelmo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, episcopo Magistro Edwardo decano Wellensi, Magistro Johanne de Axebrugg, Domino Henrico de Erlegh, Domino Johanne de Aure, Domino Briano de Guuyz, Domino Hugone Fichet, Johanne Terri, Willelmo de Horsy.

116. Inspeximus by the Bishop of Bath and Wells of the preceding charter.

Evercrych. 14 Kal. October A.D. 1259 and the twelfth year of his pontificate.

Nos. 115, 116; see also Nos. 23 and 73.

A very interesting study of the intermingling of land in a village. Bishop William, Bytton I, 1248–1264, Dean, Edward de Cnoll 1256–1284. Henry de Erleigh of Somerton Erleigh. John de Aure, sheriff 1254. Brian de Gouiz, of Kingsdon, Kirby's Quest. Hugh Fitchet, of Spaxton, Kirby's Quest. William de Horsy, of Horsy near Bridgewater. John Terri, perhaps of Mudford Terry, which by an heiress came to de Romsey, Kirby's Quest.

117. Muchelney.

Ralph, the abbot of Muchelney, complains that, whereas he holds all lands and tenements in his possession in pure and perpetual alms, he is charged for 1 knight's fee, whereof he seeks relief. Nevertheless he does service to the King for 1 knight's fee, which fee is in the possession of his tenants, viz.:

Richard de Loveny holds 1 virgate in la Seo.

Laurence de Dylington holds 1 virgate at la Seo and Hortton.

John de Corteney holds 1½ virgates in Little Hillegh.

Agnes la Yrieis and Roger de Hillegh hold half a virgate there.

John son of John de Stafford, holds 3 virgates in Middelhilecumbe and Bolewynesheye.

Geoffrey de Walisford holds 2 virgates in Overhylecombe.

Thomas de Mere, and Avice, his wife, hold 3 virgates in Hortton.

Sir William de Stanton uxor Cristina holds in name of dower in Wyke Whyke 20 acres of land and 9 acres of meadow.

Sir Walter, the chaplain of Wyke, Whyke holds of the gift and feoffment of Thomas de Parham 21 acres of land and 25 acres of meadow in Wyke.

William Baldewyne holds of the heirs of Thomas de Parham Whyke nunc Thomas Golde 20 acres of land and 20 acres of meadow.

William Ruffegerey holds in Wyke Whyke 50 acres of land and 50 acres of meadow, for which he pays to John de Loges Whyke 12*s.* for

12 acres of meadow for ever by deed, and the same John Whyke holds of the abbot in chief by knight's service.

The heirs of William de Strode att Glastole hold in Wyke Wyke 7 acres of land and of meadow 1½ perches.

Abbot Ralph (de Muchelney) held that position 1293–1303. The lands and their tenants have been referred to in earlier notes with the exception of the last, William de Strode, who, though bearing a name well-known in the county, seems to come of another stock.

118. Licence of the King for the land of Horsy.

Letters patent of King Edward [not specified but I] granting licence to Richard Bubbe of Horsy to give to the abbot and convent of Muchelnye, 1 messuage 14 acres of land, 12 acres of meadow, and 22 acres of marsh in Muchelnye, notwithstanding the statute of mortmain.

Westminster, 20 June, 18 Edward.

Horsy is in Muchelney; see also No. 85 and note.

119. Licence of the King concerning rent of 100*s.*

Letters patent of King Edward [III] granting licence for the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye to acquire 100 solidates of land and rent by the year, except lands and tenements held in chief, notwithstanding the statute of mortmain.

Tower of London, 30 March, 6 Edward [III].

(See "Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1330–1334," p. 268.)

120. Licence of the King concerning 34*s.* 11*d.* in part satisfaction of 100 solidates of land and rent.

Letters patent of King Edward [III] granting licence for the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye to acquire 100 solidates of land and rent by the year, and for William Godwyne, of Muchelnye, notwithstanding the statute of mortmain, to give and assign to the said abbot and convent 2 messuages, 33 acres of land, 9 acres of meadow 8*s.* rent in Muchelnye and Ilministre, which messuages, land and meadow, except the said rent, are worth by the year 20*s.* 3*d.*; as by the inquisition of William Trussel, the escheator on this side Trent.

Wodestoke, 18 May, 6th Edward [III].

(See "Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1330–1334," p. 302.) The inquisition is entered in the Calendar, 6 Edward III, 2nd Nos., 100. John Godwyne of Muchelney paid 3*s.* 4*d.* in the Taxation Roll of 1327.

121. Record of a plea between the abbot and Richard de Dylyngton concerning the view of frank pledge of Ilemynstre.

Pleas at Westminster before R. Hillary and other justices of the Bench on the quinzaine of St. Hilary, 15 Edward [III]. Ro. cxxxix.

John, the Abbot of Muchelnye, and John le Hayward were summoned to answer to Richard de Dylyngton of a plea wherefore they took a certain mare of the said Richard and unjustly detained it, &c.

Richard, by John de Crukern his attorney, complains that the abbot and John le Hayward, on Wednesday after the feast of St. Dunstan, in the 14th year of the King that now is, Ilemynstre in a place called Pleystred, took a mare of the said Richard to the value of 100*s*. Adjournments to Trinity and Michaelmas. The abbot and John, by John de Horthurn their attorney, came, &c., and the abbot avows the taking and that justly, because he says he is lord of the manor of Ilemynstre within which he has, and all his predecessors from time immemorial have, had view of frank pledge twice a year, &c., to which view all residing within the manor as well free men as villeins ought to come, &c., and from the free tenants the bailiff of the court ought to elect 12 and present their names to the Steward of the court who shall cause them to be sworn to present those things which pertain to the view of frank pledge, &c. The said Richard came to the view on Monday after the feast St. Luke in the 13th year, and was elected by the bailiff and his name presented to the Steward, who enjoined him to swear to present, &c. Richard utterly refused and was amerced at 12*d*. The abbot took the mare for that amercement, &c., and Richard not gainsaying but that the abbot has view of frank pledge in his manor, says that the abbot cannot avow the just taking because the presentations which pertain to the view of frank pledge in the manor of Ilemynstre were always made there by the tithing-men and their tithings and not by 12 free men elected by the abbot's bailiff. And he asks that it be enquired into by his country. And the abbot likewise.

Therefore it is commanded to the sheriff that he cause 12 [jurors] to come here on the quinzaine of Holy Trinity.

122. Pleas at the same place before J. Stonore and others in three weeks from Easter Day, 17 Edward III.

Ro. cxl.

The jury between Richard de Dylyngton, plaintiff, and John, the Abbot of Muchelnye, of a plea of withholding a certain mare, is adjourned to the quinzaine of Michaelmas 16 Edward III. John de Stoford and Hamo de Derworthy, justice of assize, came, before whom the jury sent their verdict, to wit—Afterwards on the day and in the place within contained the parties came, and likewise the jurors, who, elected with the consent of the parties, say that the presentations which pertain to the view of frank pledge in the manor of Ilemynstre were always made by 12 free men elected by the bailiff of the abbot and not by the tithing men and their tithings. Therefore the abbot may go without a day and Richard take nothing by his suit, but let him be in mercy for his false claim, &c., and the abbot shall have return of the said mare.

The King's writ to the sheriff of Somerset to return the said mare to John, the Abbot of Muchelnye.

Westminster, 16 October, 17 Edward III.

Nos. 121, 122. John de Somerton was elected abbot in 1334.
For the family of Dillington, see No. 76.

123. Agreement between the rector of the church of Curyrivel and the Abbot and Convent of Muchelnye, as on folio xix, No. 23.

124. Agreement between Ralph, the Abbot of Muchelnye and William de Loveny, son and heir of Sir Walter de Loveny, knight, concerning an entry which the said William had made in the tenements of Hylecombe and Bolewynesheghe upon the seisin of the abbot which he had taken in the said tenements as chief lord of that fee. The abbot rendered to William seisin of the said tenements and also took his homage and fealty for the same, and also for the tenements of Asswelle and of la Wareneresitte for which William is mesne between the abbot and the tenants of the tenements. William acknowledged upon his homage and fealty to hold the said tenements of the abbot and convent by the following services, viz.,

Hylecombe for half a hide, 5*s.* yearly ;
La Putte for a furling, 5*s.* yearly ;
Bolewynesheghe for half a hide, 14*s.* yearly ;
La Wareneresitte for half a yirgeto, for no rent ;

modo Bolore
Assewille for 1 vigate, 12*s.* yearly, a pound of pepper and another of cummin;

doing, moreover, royal and foreign services, and suit at the court of the abbot Yleminstre from three weeks to three weeks; and he acknowledged that he will find a fit horse to carry an esquire in the army of the King, whenever the abbot is bound to do his service for his barony to the King, and pledged his relief, &c., and faithfully to make payment he found mainpernors, viz., Richard de Loveny, Laurence de Dylington, John Malasel and John de Wynterheghe, who, with the said William acknowledged themselves principal debtors. In witness whereof the said abbot and the said William and his mainpernors affixed their seals alternately to a bipartite writing.

Hiis testibus :—Ricardo Pyk, Johanne de Horstede, Roberto de Clyfford, Johanne de Monteacuto, Roger de Stogling.

Mochelnye, Wednesday after the Feast of St. Luke, 26 Edward I.

For the family of Loveny, see notes on No. 48.

125. Agreement concerning four acres of wheat to be received every year.

Grant by John de Erlehe to the Abbot of Muchelnye, who holds the Church of Somertone to his own uses, of the crop of 4 acres of wheat, for which he had lately arrained an assise of novel disseisin against him.

Hiis testibus: Willelmo de Reygny, Willelmo le Lyt, Willelmo Huse, Roberto de Mere, Johanne de Monte Acuto, Ricardo Byssup, Walters Ysaac, Johanne Loges, Thoma le Warener.

Somertone, Tuesday after the Feast of St. Margaret the Virgin, 27 Edward I.

John de Erleigh, lord of Somerton Erleigh. Muchelney Abbey had extensive rights in the manor of Somerton, see Nos. 98–100. Of the witnesses: William de Reygny, of Stawley; William le Lyt, of Lytes Cary; John de Monte Acuto, probably of Norton Fitzwarren.

126. Agreement concerning Dylyngton.[1]

+ þis bouk ys þe vorewarde bitwixxe þan abbode ealdolf of Muchelñ and Hearding eadnothes sona of þan londe of Dylingtone, þe abbod hit him ȝef on fee so þat hei were on his sped the bitte[2] hei were on þes Kinges nede þe whyle þe hei livede 7 t

hei schoulde on his lyve lete hym mannye on his neȝe Kynesmanne vor þt londe and þe vorewarde al so was ȝif hearding vorth ferde þat on of his kinesman schoulde doun þe hyrdsumnysse to þe abbode of Muchelñ oþer o mark silueres loke whaþer þe abbod wolde and þes Kinges ȝuld and eft þo me dude þe manredene in þe capetille bifore þan hirde, Syward hy dude Hardinges broþer vor hardinges nexste Kinesman, and so ȝif siward vorth ferde onof his oþer Kinesman schoulden don þe manredene and þane [pane MS.] hirdsumnisse to þe abbode þar þes forewarde ywroȝt was þar was þe schirreyve Roberd de Gurnay wittnisse þerto and Roberd del ilde and huȝe de munt sorel an Reynold de albemare and Jacob and haȝene of þas abbodes halve and Aylbriȝt his mei and Osebern and Siward Heardinges broþer and Edmonde his mei an Godwine prest and Arnolf prest ant þis was idon þan abbode in þe capetille and bi fore þan hirde and hearding scholde don ȝif ȝuld come ope þan abbod of þas Kingeshalve alsemouche alse biuelle op on hyde of hys lande.

Translation.

[1]This "book" is the agreement between the abbot Ealdwulf of Muchelney and Hearding the son of Eadnoth concerning the land of Dillington, which the abbot gave to him in fee, so that it shall be in his possession, unless[2] (?) it shall be in the king's distraint (?), for so long as he shall live; he shall in his life let it to one (?) of his near kinsmen for the land; and the agreement was that if Hearding die, one of his kinsmen shall do fealty to the Abbot of Muchelney or pay one mark of silver, whichever the abbot wish, and (shall pay) the king's geld. And after that when the homage was done in the chapter before the convent, Sigeweard did it, Hearding's brother, as Hearding's next kinsman; and in like manner if Sigeweard die, one of his other kinsmen shall do the homage and the fealty to the abbot. When this agreement was made the sheriff, Robert de Gurnay, was witness thereto, and Robert del Isle, and Hugh de Mountsorel, and Reginald be Albemarle; and James and Hagena on the abbot's behalf, and Æthelbriht his kinsman, and Osbeorn, and Sigeweard, Hearding's brother, and Edmund his kinsman, and Godwine the priest, and Arnulf the priest. And this was done (before) the abbot in the chapter and before the convent. And Hearding shall, if geld fall upon the abbot on

the king's behalf, pay as much as falls upon a hide of his land.

[1] This is written in a very early fourteenth century hand. It is naturally full of errors of transcription. The document is of interest as showing the use of English in legal agreements after the Norman Conquest, and because it concerns the well-known Hearding son of Eadnoth. Its date seems to be shortly before 1100.

[2] Read *bute* = O.E. *būtan.*

127. Ileminstre. Chelewurthe.

Quitclaim by Walter, the abbot of Muchelnye and the convent of that place, to Simon son of William de Gryndeham, his heirs or assigns for ever, of the suit of his land of Chelewurthe, which he and his ancestors were bound to do in their court of Ilemynystre, and for this Simon gave them 20*s.*

Hiis testibus: Domino Waltero de Esselegh, Domino Willelmo Malherb, Domino Radulfo filio Bernardi, Domino Galfrido de Maresco, Roberto le Bol, Willelmo le Luveny, Symone filio Johannis de Hylecomb, Nigello de Dylyngton, Ricardo Maloysel.

Muchelney, St. Gregory, A.D. 1242.

Chelewurthe, now Chilworthy, lies at the extreme south-west portion of the parish of Ilminster. Abbot Walter, de Cerne 1237–1251.

128. Muchelney. Composition for the Vicar.

Ordinance by Walter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, that Sir Richard Baldewyne of Mertok, vicar of the parish church of Muchelnye, and his successors the vicars have the whole manse, houses and curtilage in which manse he now lives, and shall daily receive from the cellarer of the convent a monk's bread (*unum panem monachalem*) of the weight of 60 shillings and two gallons of ale of the best conventual ale, and from the kitchen a dish of flesh meat on Sundays and on Tuesdays and a dish of eggs or fish on the other days of the week at the cook's pleasure, and from the sacristan 4*l.* yearly in support of the charges, also all the money offered on Sundays at Muchelnye and in the chapel of Draytone thereto annexed, also all money offered at burials both at the first and at the second mass, also the "*legata relicta*" and "*denarios missales*" for the deceased, also all the bread, eggs, and other oblations coming to the cross on Holy Friday and Easter Day, in the church of Muchelnye and at Drayton and all the oblations at confessions, marriages and purifications. But the oblations at the said church and

chapel on the days of Christmas, Easter, the Apostles Peter and Paul, St. Peter ad Vincula, St. Catherine, the Purification and the dedication, and all the tithes both great and small and all other receipts unspecified shall belong to the abbot and convent. The vicar shall bear all episcopal and archidiaconal charges except the procurations of the archdeacon, and shall find a fit chaplain to dwell continually in the said chapel to perform divine services.

Chyu, 2 Kal. December, A.D. 1308.

Bishop Walter, de Haselschaw 1302–1309. See No. 24 for a very early endowment of Drayton. The daily allowance of two gallons of beer for a bachelor and his modest household seems liberal, but "Multum biberunt de cerevisia Anglicana, as the Pope said." (Maitland, *Domesday and Beyond*, p. 439.) In 1310 Adam de Ilminster was vicar of Muchelney.

129. Confirmation by Richard, the Abbot and the Convent of Muchelney, to William, son and heir of Alexander de Loveni, and his heirs for ever, of all those lands which his father held of their church, viz., half a hide in Hylecumbe, for 5*s.* yearly, and he shall defend that land in Uthban (*utebannis*) for half a hide; and of all that land in Asshwell which the same Alexander, his father, held of them, rendering yearly 8*s.* and a sextary of honey, and, besides, a pound of pepper and one of cummin for the increase of the said customary tax to the use of the convent, which they are bound yearly to give for having the present confirmation; and he shall defend that land of Asshwelle in Uthban for the one virgate.

This charter in Hearne's copy contains the list of witnesses: Richard Ryvel, senior, William Ryvel, Richard Ryvel, junior, Stephen "Thornacus" canon of Wells, Henry Coneiro, Symon of Dylyngtone, and many others. As both the R. Ryvels were dead by 1222, the date lies in the period 1198–1222. For the family of Luveni, see note on No. 48.

130. Final concord, at Westminster, on the quinzaine of Easter Day, 3 Edward III, between Robert Fytzpayn and Ela, his wife, plaintiffs, by Thomas de Loutteswell put in their place, and Walter de Thornhull and Margery, his wife, deforciants, of the manor of Dounheved, by which the said Walter and Margery acknowledged the said manor to be the right of Ela, and rendered it to the said Robert and Ela, to hold to them and the heirs of Ela of the chief lords of that fee for ever. And for this the said Robert and Ela gave Walter and Margery 10*li.* [Ped. Fin., 3 Ed. III, 31, p. 135.]

131. Final concord, at Westminster, on the Morrow of the Ascension, 28 Edward III (1354), and afterwards on the quinzaine of Holy Trinity in the same year, between Richard de Acton and John de Somerton, plaintiffs, and Robert Fitzpayn and Ela, his wife, deforciants, of the manor of Dounheved, by which the said Robert and Ela acknowledged the said manor to be the right of Richard, and quitclaimed all right to Richard and John and to the heirs of Richard for ever. And for this Richard and John gave Robert and Ela 100 marks.

132. Grant and confirmation by Richard de Acton, Knight, to Alexander le Clerk of Westcammel, and William Derby, clerk, of his manor of Dounheved next Westcammel, to hold to the said Alexander and William and the heirs of William by hereditary right for ever of the chief lords of that fee.

Hiis testibus, Johanni de Clyvedon, Johanne de Meriet, militibus, Johanne de Erlegh, Johanne atte Sleu, Waltero de Spekyngton.

Westcammel, Monday before the Feast of St. Margaret the Virgin 32 Edward III [1258].

133. Dunhed.

Quitclaim by John de Somerton for himself and his heirs for ever, to Alexander le Clerk of Westcammel, and William Derby, clerk, and the heirs of William, of all his right in the manor of Dounheved next Westcammel.

Hiis testibus, Radulpho de Myddelnye, Johanne Trivet, militibus, Waltero Corbyn, Waltero de Spekyngton, Johanne Leddrede, juniore, Johanne Mapoudre, Stephano Clerk de Somerton.

Muchelnye, Friday after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, 32 Edward III [1258].

134. Dunhed.

Grant by William Derby, chaplain, and Alexander de Cammel, clerk, to Thomas de Overton, the Abbot, and the Convent of Muchelnye, of their manor of Dounheved next Westcammel, to provide a regular chaplain to celebrate every day in the church of the said abbey for the healthful estate of the said Alexander while he shall live, and for his soul when he shall die &c. for ever.

Hiis testibus, Radulpho de Middelnye, Ricardo de Acton,

militibus, Johanne de Somerton, Waltero Corbyn, Johanne Mapoudre, Johanne Leddrede, Johanne atte Ok.

Westcammel, Thursday after the Feast of the Circumcision, 32 Edward III [1259].

Nos. 130–134. In 1166 Dounhead was held by Richard Rivel, of Curry Rivel, in partnership with Margaret, daughter of Ralph Tabuel (*Lib. Niger*), and No. 109 in this cartulary dated 1211. As the manor is not mentioned in the lists of lands in the inquisitions of his successors and heirs, it must have been parted with at an early date; the only link with its former owners being that it was assessed with Pitney Lorty in the taxation of 1327. Walter Thornhull was then a principal taxpayer. The manor passed rapidly from Fitzpayne to Sir Richard Acton, owner of much property in the county, by the fine recorded in No. 131, 1354. He granted Dounhead in 1358 to Alexander le Clerk and William Derby, No. 132, and after John de Somerton, co-grantee with Richard de Acton, had released his rights by the charter No. 133, No. 134 records the arrival of the manor at the destination to which it had been manifestly tending for some time. Of the witnesses to Nos. 132–134: John de Clyveden was of Aller and Yeovilton; John de Meriet, of Merriott; John de Erleigh, of Somerton Erleigh; John atte Slew, of Slow Court in West Camel; Walter de Speckington, of that hamlet in Yeovilton; Ralph de Myddelnye, of Middleney in Drayton; John Trivet, of Chilton Trivet near Bridgewater, M.P. 1348; Walter Corbyn, of Dounhead; John Leddrede, of Somerton Erleigh.

135. Forest of Nerech.

Memorandum of an inquisition taken 29 Edward. The [jurors] say that the woods of Honeckbere, Shortwode, Leynete, which are the woods of the Abbot of Muchelnye, were in the demesne of the King, but were enfeoffed before the Conquest.

This is an extract from a perambulation of the Forest of Neroche, and given *totidem verbis* in another, made the year before, and printed in the *Som. and Dors. N. and Q.*, vi, p. 266.

136. Concerning the manner of doing homage.

When a Fre man doythe homage to hys Lorde of whom he holdythe en chyeff, he shall holde hys hondys joyntly bytwyne his Lordy's hondys, And shall sey yu thys wyse; I become youre man fro thys day forwarde of lyffe and lyme, and to all your successours, and of herthly honour and feythe. I shall bere you for the place &c. that I holde of you &c. savying the feythe that I am bounde to owe to our soverayne Lorde the Kyng And shall kysse hys Lorde.

137. Ista penitencia labor religionis solucitudo conciencie humilitatis confessionis et omnia bona que fecisti et facies Et passio Domini nostri Ihesu Christi et merita beate Marie et

omnium sanctorum cedent tibi in remissione peccatorum istorum et omnium peccatorum tuorum in agmentum gracie et premium vite eterne.

Et ego ex autoritate Domini nostri Ihesu Christi et appostolorum suorum Petri et Pauli et autoritate mihi commissa in hac parte te obsolvo ab istis peccatis mihi a te confessis et ab omnibus aliis que confeteri velles si tue memorie occurrerent ac eciam a vinculo ex-communicacionis majoris vel minoris, suspencionis vel interdicti si indiges in quantum possum et debio te obsolvo et restituo sacramentis ecclesie et communioni fidelium, in nomine Patris.

Animas eorum qui istut librarium fundaverunt Deus obsolvat ab omni vinculo delictorum et det eis vitam et requiem sempiternam.

Hospes eram mundo per mundum semper eundo Hec postrema dies est mihi prima quies.

Britones toto affectu desederabant miliciam sed nec multum curabant in quam e * * cu[r]rent dum eam incipiebant.

Ista penitencia labor religionis solicitudo conciencie humilitatis confessionis et omnia bona que fecisti et facies Et passio Domini nostri Ihesu Christi et merita beate Marie et omnium sanctorum cedent tibi in remissione peccatorum istorum et omnium peccatorum tuorum in agmentum gracie et premium vite eterne. Absolucionem. Et ego ex autoritate Domini nostri Ihesu Christi et appostolurum suorum Petri et Pauli et autoritate mihi commissa in hac parte te obsolvo ab istis peccatis mihi a te confessis et ab omnibus alliis que confiteri velles si tue memorie occurrerent ac eciam a vinculo ex communicacionis majoris vel minoris suspensionis vel interdicti si indiges in quantum possum et debeo te obsolvo et restituo sacramentis ecclesie et communioni fidelium. In nomine.

A curious collection of odds and ends containing: a form of absolution, repeated again at the end; a fragment of history of some unknown author; the epitaph on Savaric, Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, 1192–1205, translated by his successor Lord Arthur Hervey:

> "Through the wide world a ranger, and ever a stranger,
> The first rest that I found was six feet under ground";

and lastly, a prayer for the founders of the monastic library which must have come from the heart of the monk engaged in compiling the Cartulary. May he receive the benefits of that prayer.

FINIS.

EXCERPTA
EX REGISTRO ABBATIÆ DE
ATHELNEY IN AGRO SOMERSETENSI,
1735.

G. H.

PARS II^{da}.

N.B.—Hujus Registri mihi copiam fecit pro summa sua humanitate Dñus Gulielmus Wyndham Baronettus, mihi amicissimus, hujusque Comitatus Somersetensis Decus et Tutamen, quem penes est iste Codex manuscriptus A.D. 1735 mense Septembri.

(The present copy is transcribed from Phillipps MSS. 4810, 4811.)

ATHELNEY.

Only a portion of the Athelney cartulary is now printed; that part which is preserved in two volumes in the Phillipps Library formerly at Middlehill, and now lodged at Cheltenham. The original cartulary together with that of Cleeve Abbey, now both lost to sight, were in the early part of the last century in the possession of Sir William Wyndham, the celebrated statesman, of Orchard Wyndham in this County. In 1735 a copy was made by Dr. George Harbin the nonjuror who devoted his life to the collection of material for the history of Somerset. After his death in 1744[1] his collections became dispersed, and the transcript of the Athelney cartulary was at length purchased by Sir Thomas Phillipps.

Mr. J. Batten, F.S.A., has provided the following collation: "The Athelney transcript is contained in two small quarto volumes in the handwriting of George Harbin, D.D., A.D. 1735, from the original in possession of Sir William Wyndham, Bart. The first 32 pages of volume one are torn out: 33 is the first and 224 the last. Volume two concludes with 247, making altogether 214 pages."

The first page of the transcript is fo. 43 of the original cartulary, and begins with the attestation clause of a charter of King Alfred. Among the witnesses is Asser signing as bishop which makes the charter later than 892. It is therefore not the charter of foundation which was most probably in 888. It

[1] S. James, Piccadilly: Buried 22 Sept. 1744, Rev. George Harbin. At some future date I hope to supplement the notice in the *Dict. of Nat. Biography*, vol. xxiv, with a fuller account of his life and his labours in the field of Somerset history.

might be the charter of either Ashill or Bossington, which, though alienated for a time at the Conquest, returned to the Abbey.

With the exception of the donation of Ilton by King Edgar (noted in No. 214, though the charter itself is not given), and the two places named above, all the pre-Domesday possessions of the Abbey are entered in the existing portion of the cartulary. So it is probable that the missing part was taken up with the history of the foundation of the Abbey, including perhaps the life of the founder; and it may even be that this part, being of the nature of history, was removed from the cartulary proper to be placed with other documents relating to the period, and now lost.

The Rev. T. Hugo wrote a general history of the Abbey, which since his death has been printed in a recent volume of the *Som. Arch. & Nat. Hist. Soc. Proceedings*, XLIII, ii. 94. As this is in the hands of practically every subscriber to the S.R.S., it does not seem necessary to go over the ground a second time; and I have placed my own contributions in the form of notes to the different charters.

In the list of Abbots it has been found possible to correct and largely supplement all previous lists.

Abbots of Athelney.

A date before the name is that of appointment; after the names it denotes the year or period when it is found.

888. John the Old-Saxon.
Seignus, 937 (charter 98).
Alfric, 1007 (charter 64).
Athelwin, 1020–5 (charter 57).
1125. Ralph Maledoctus (charter 26).
Simon, 1135 (Bath cart. i. 61, S.R.S. vii. 59).
Benedict I, 1159.
Roger I, 1174–1192.
Benedict II, 1198–1225.
1227. Roger II.
1245. Robert, 1263.

Either before or after Robert came Osmund de Reigny (*temp.* Hen. III, charter 241).

1267. Richard de Derham.
1280. Andrew de Sacro Fonte (Wells).
1300. Osmund de Sowi.
1325. Robert de Ile.
1341. Richard de Gotehurst.
1349. John Stoure.
1349. Robert de Hacche.
1390. John Hewish.
1399. John Brygge.
1424. John Petherton.
1458. Robert Hylle.
1485. John George.
1503. John Wellington.
1517. Richard Wraxall (born Bele).
1518. John Herte.
1527. Thomas Sutton.
1531. John Maior.
1533. Robert Hamlyn.

DISSOLUTION OF THE ABBEY, 8th February, 1538–9.

Collinson has three additional Saxon abbots: Alfward 1009, Simon his successor, and Athelward 1016; and gives as his authority for the first two, the cartulary. In this case he must have seen the part now missing, as I have not been able to find them in any documents of the period.

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2. Charter of King Alfred ; donation of (Long) Sutton. A.-S. boundaries in old English translation. 852 A.D.
3. Royal commission concerning rights of common on Kingsmore in Somerton, *temp.* Ed. I.
4. Inquisition for the said commission taken 1285.
5. Further proceedings on this commission.
6. Grant by Robert Cosyn of half a virgate in Sutton Abbatis.
7. Grant by Nicholaus fil. Wakelini of Sutton of personal services, 1220.
8. Andrew, abbot of Athelney, 1281. 9 Ed. I.
9. Richard, abbot of Athelney, 4 Ed. I, with list of witnesses.
10. Grant by Osmund, the abbot, to Henry de Urtiaco of land in Littlemore [1300–1317].
11. Release (French) of the said grant by Elizabeth de Middleney, 1364.
12. Record of proceedings concerning the said grant, 6 Ric. II, 1383.
13. Homage (French) of Ralph de Middelnye Chr. for Knolle, 30 Ed. III, 1356.
14. Homage (French) of Elizabeth, late wife of Ralph de Middelnye, 38 Ed. III (1364).
15. List of witnesses, 50 Ed. III, 1377.
16. Charter (not given) of John Corbyn s. and h. of Walter Corbyn atte Loode, with witnesses ; 38 Ed. III, 1364.
17. Another list of witnesses, 40 Ed. III, 1366.
18. Release by Elizabeth de Middelnye of land in Litelode in Knolle, 38 Ed. III, 1364.
19. Grant by Sabina de Urtiaco to Robert Corbyn of land in La Lade [1242–1254].
20. John Hywist, abbot, 22 Ric. II.
21. Charter (not given) of Cecilia de Corbyn, 12 Hen. IV (1411).
22. Grant by John Chinnock, abbot of Glastonbury, of land in Long Sutton, 4 H. IV (1403).
23. Grant by Hugh de Meryet of a burgage in Langport-Weston [*ante* 1236].
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25. Charter (not given) of Ancelin de Gournay jun. and Johanna his wife, 21 Ed. III (1347).

26. Grant by Henry I of the abbey of Athelney to Ralph Maledoctus [1125].
27. Grant by William Gascoigne of one third part of the manor of Newton-Plecy, 33 Hen. VI, 1455.
28. Grant by Henry de Erleigh of land in Normora [*temp.* Hen. III].
29. Memorandum concerning Suther-Ashull.
30. Note of agreement between Thomas and Margaret Moleton, and Walter, bishop of Exeter, concerning manors of Ashull and Sevenhampton [no details]; 1316, 9 Ed. II.
31. Charter of Robert de Vallibus of land at Ashill [early thirteenth century].
32. Re-seisin of Abbot Osmund in the land at Ashill [1316].
33. Grant by Alexander de Pirou of a serf with his land [*temp.* bishop Reginald, 1174–1191].
34. Agreement between Abbot Roger and Pharamus de Bolonia concerning the bounds of his park at Broadway [early thirteenth century].
35. Grant by Fulk de Clehangre of certain rights in a road at Ilton [first half of thirteenth century].
36. Grant by the same (styled son of Robert de Muntsorel) of a serf [first half of thirteenth century].
37. Grant by Robert de Delington, of 40*d.* rent [first half of thirteenth century].
38. Grant by Robert de Cnoll of 9*d.* rent in Primisham and Ferlin [later than 37].
39. Grant by Elias de Ashford of the mill at Ashford [early thirteenth century].
40. Charter of Abbot Roger granting the mill to Richard de Wrotham [early thirteenth century].
41. Grant by John de Ashford of his lands in Ilton, &c. to John de Thresk, rector of Sutton-Montagu, 35 Ed. III [1361].
42. Charter of John de Ashford with witnesses [no particulars], 1361.
43. Grant by the heirs of Peter de Chubworth to John de Thresk of their inheritance in Abedike Hundred, 38 Ed. III [1364].
44. Grant by Peter de Yevelton to Peter le Gust for his life of lands in Ashford, &c. . . . Ed. III.
45. Leave to abbey of Athelney to receive lands in mortmain to keep a lamp burning there, 44 Ed. III [1370].
46. Grant by John de Staford of his tenements at Staford (in Ilton) [46–46–54, c. 1260, 54 c. i. 260].
47. Notice by above to his tenants to do their services to the abbot.
48. Grant by John de Scalera, brother of above, of his lands in Staford.
49. Further grant by John de Staford.
50. Grant by Robert Sylvestre of lands in Staford.
51. Grant by William (dictus de Marisco) of lands in Staford.
52. Grant by Hugh Hasting of lands in Staford.
53. Grant by John de Meriet of his superior right in Staford [*post* 1258 and probably 1263].
54. Grant by Thomas de Montesorello of a road in Broadwaye.
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56. Further grant by John de Ileminstre to above of land in les Apses.
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58. Grant (French) of Sir John de Beauchamp of half an acre in Shepton Beauchamp.
59. Agreement by Abbot Osmund in return for this gift, 1307.
60. Grant by Abbot Benedict to Hubert, son of Hugh, of land at Ashford [1198–1231].
61. Grant by William Malet, son of Gilbert, of lands in Compton [*temp.* Hen. II].
62. Charter of King Breorhtrice of 10 cassates in Hamme to Wigfruthe præfectus, A.D. 794.
63. Charter of King Edwy of one manse in Ham to Ceduard minister, 958.
64. Charter of King Athelred of three perches in Hamme to the abbey, 1009.
65. Grant by Abbot Simon to Roger of Everlega [*temp.* Hen. II].
66. Confirmation of above grant by Benedict Abbot (I).
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68. Note of a Fine, 34 Ed. I, between Abbot Osmund and Agnes Wasun [no details, and not in printed copy].
69. Grant by Henry de Erleigh to the abbey of the services due from Hamme at the Hundred Court [part 1228].
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71. Grant by Abbot Osmund to William Punchardon of the maritagium of Philippa Wason, 1307.
72. Acknowledgment by Galfridi de Wlmerston concerning Stokmore, 1242.
73. Grant by William de Raleghe of an acre in Dunwere [c. 1250].
74. Release by Richard Kelyng to Abbot Roger of rights in Hamme [before 1248].
75. Confirmation by Walter de Dudesham to Abbot Roger of land in Hamme [before 1248].
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77. Similar confirmation by Robert Scorham of Bridgewater.
78. Grant by Roger de Amary to Abbot Robert of his land at Adescombe [in Over-Stowey, 1248–1268].
79. Grant by John de Huppeton of rents, &c. in Adescombe [same period].
80. Grant by Matilda de Chandos of Edmund de Buly with his suit [c. 1200].
81. Release by William Fichet of Brummore of his land in Adescombe [*temp.* Hen. III].
82. Grant by Philip de Columbers III of the rents and services of Henry de la Mora [1216–1237].
83. Grant by Abbot Robert to Walter le heir of Sowey of "le Burg-mede," 1336.
84. Grant by the abbey towards a light in the chapel at Hamme, 1225.
85. Domesday account of Sutton, Ilton, Sevenhampton, Hamm, Lenge Montacute.

86. Grant by Abbot Benedict of a virgate in Sutton to Maurice de Sutton, early thirteenth century.
87. Grant by Abbot Benedict to Robert de Bellocampo of the fraternity of his abbey, c. 1150.
88. Acknowledgment of homage for lands in West-Lenge by Roger Fitz-nigel [1280–1300].
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90. Receipt from Thomas de Mareberge, sheriff of Somerset, for the royal aid, 1290.
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95. Confirmation of grant by her son Maurice of London [c. 1250].
96. Confirmation of ditto by his son Robert of London.
97. Charter of King Athelstane concerning Lenge, A.D. 937.
98. Charter of Count Maenchi concerning Lanlovern [of same date].
99. Terms of Agreement between Abbot Benedict and John de Erlega concerning a more, 15 John [1213–4].
100. Grant by Henry de Erlega of the services, &c., due by Taunton Priory for Nordmore [*post* 1228].
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103. Grant by above of a portion of Northmore.
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106. Release by Richard de Newton of certain rights in Northmore to Abbot Richard [1267–1276].
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126. Memorandum conc. certain rents and services due to the Abbey.
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128. Charter of Henry II concerning his gift of Corilade [1155–9].
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135. Agreement between the Abbey and the Dean and Chapter concerning Corylade, 1263.
136. Note of another similar agreement with witnesses 1311 [no details, Wells MSS., p. 299].
137. Royal licence for some similar exchange, 4 Ed. (I), 1276.
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141. Charter of King Stephen of free warren in Lenge and Hamme.
142. Confirmation of this charter by Henry IV, 1405.
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144. Charter of protection by Henry (II ?).
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146. Royal warning to the lords of Bridgewater not to interfere with the rights of the Abbey [*temp.* Ed. III].
147. Charter of Henry III for a market at Lenge and fair at Sutton, 1268.
148. Charter of Henry II concerning the land at Cantok.
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150. Grant by Thos. Clavyle of his land at Clavleshegh [1274–1290].
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152. Quitclaim by Alice de Clavyle of her right in the land.
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171. Agreement of Richard de la Hyde concerning his land here.
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174. Grant by John Serle of all his rights in "la Hyde," 7 Ric. II [1384].
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176. Grant by Sabina de Bosco to William her son of her land in Holeford.
177. Grant by Will de Holeford son of Sabina to Thos. de Newton of the said land, 1257.
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179. Confirmation of above grant by Hugh de la Yerde.
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186. Grant by Simon Buzun of land in "la Breche" in Bagborough.
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208. Final concord concerning Oggeshale, 17 Ed. I [printed].
209. Agreement (French) between the Abbey and Dame Eliz. Blunt for a Mass, 8 Ric. II [1384].
210. Names of the Kings of England from 800 to Henry V, with the places of their burial.
211. Grant by John de Erleghe to Robert son of Milo of lands in Petherton [late twelfth century].
212. History of foundation of the Abbey, and of Saltmore preserved by Abbot Roger, 1242.
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217. Note concerning default of Lady Cecilia Beauchamp to do fealty 1286.
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219. Appointment by Cecilia de Beauchamp of an attorney to make her suit, 24 Ed. I, 1296.
220. Another appointment by the above, 31 Ed. I [1303].
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222. Note concerning the default of Cecilia de Turberville to do suit or homage, 39 Ed. III [1365].
223. Note concerning the submission of Cecilia de Turberville, 5 Ric. II [1382].
224. Note concerning the demise of Sir John Wadham, and accession of his son John, 14 Hen. IV [1412].
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226. Note concerning Cecilia Turberville, 10 Ric. II, 1387.
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241. Note concerning Osmund Reyny, abbot in the reign of Henry III.
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EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTER OF THE ABBEY OF ATHELNEY.

1. I, Edward the king's son, have consented. I, Ethelward the king's son, have consented. I, bishop Asser, have drawn up and ordered to be written (this charter). I, bishop Ealferth, have confirmed it. I, bishop Ethelheah, have confirmed it. I, Cuthred "curator," have confirmed it. I, Ulfere "curator," have confirmed it. I, Eadulf "dux," have approved. I, Mised "minister," have agreed. I, Ulric "minister," have consented. I, Awlf "minister," have approved.

The attestation clause of a vanished charter. This may have been the donation of either Ashill or Bossington, which *temp.* Doomsday had passed into lay hands. The date would be in the period 892–900.

1*a*. King Alfred's oath on the day of his coronation. Fo. 43. In the name of Christ I promise these three things to the Christian people subject to me. In the first place that I will command and labour with all my strength that the Church of God and all Christian people shall have true peace at all times by our judgment; secondly, that I will forbid all kinds of rapacity and wickedness among all men; thirdly, that in all judicial matters I will advise equity and mercy that the kind and merciful God may extend his mercy to me and you. Amen.

Alfred succeeded his brother Ethelred 871.

2. Charter of Alfred the king of the original gift of the manor of Sutton to the church of S. Saviour at Athelney.

Our Lord Jesus Christ reigning for ever. All the kingdoms of this passing world and the governors of the kingdoms from the beginning of this world pass away with swiftness and disappear. Wherefore, I, Alfred, by divine permission King of the West Saxons, for the benefit of my soul and the forgiveness of my sins, have given willingly a small portion of land, that is ten cassates, in the place which is called Suthtun, to the island of Nobles which is in the English named Athelingaie, as a help to the monastic life of the monks there under a regular rule serving God devoutly. And this benefit to the said monastery I intend to give with meadows pastures streams, and everything which rightly belongs to it, that it may remain secure and exempt and free from all royal tribute and exactions and penalties and all sorts of secular burdens, except military service and the building of citadels and bridges. If anyone is willing to increase this gift may God increase his goods in the land of the living. But if anyone raised by pride or carried away by the power of tyranny should try to infringe this charter, let such a one know that he is anathematized by the whole Christian church, and unless he restore it before the day of judgement in the presence of Christ and his angels, he will receive a just recompense.

The gift is contained within the following bounds.

Herst on Chelbroke, from Chelbroke up to Harepathe endelanges Harepathe to Merfranford, from Merfranford endelanges Strate on Ryshwill, from Ryshewill to Foulewill into anhence endelangs Penheved unto Foxhole, from Foxhole unto Erthenote, estwards out of Erthenote into Cuttleston, from Cuttleston unto Herepath, endelang Herepath unto Dyrston, from Dyrston ynto anhence, from anhence endelang the Mere unto Boyledyche, from Boyledyche into the lake, endelang the lake unto the dyche, out of the dyche en lang mores unto Benham, estwards from Benham unto Swanmere, out of Swanmere into Yevel out of Yevel unto Pedryde, out of Pedryde into Abbaulake, out of Abbaulake est into Chelbroke.

And thes ber the bounds that ber about the Manere of Lang Sutton the which Manere Kyng Alfred yefe to the Monastery of Athelney, in ye yere from ye Incarnation of our Lord Jesu Christ eight hundred fifty two.

The charter of this donation was written in 852 A.D. Indict. iiii. These witnesses consented and signed whose names are most clearly written underneath. I, King Alfred, have strength-

ened my gift by the sign of the cross. I, bishop Elfred, have confirmed. I, bishop Ewellial, have confirmed. I, Edulf dux, have agreed. I, Cuthred dux, have confirmed. I, Ulfer dux, have agreed. I, Mucel dux, have consented. I, Elfstan dux, have signed. I, Mired minister, have established (it). I, Ulfric minister, have consented. I, Awlf minister, have approved.

The transcriber and translator of this charter has set down an impossible date, as Alfred did not begin his reign before 871, when he was only 23. Sir J. H. Ramsey would make him 29, *i.e.*, born 842, *Foundations of Engl. Hist.* I, 247. As there seems no solid ground for supposing that there was already a monastery at Athelney, the date of the charter must be after 888, the date of the foundation by Alfred. Hugo gives a translation of this charter from Lansd. MSS. ff. 58, 58b, but the witnesses' names are not quite the same, and are certainly more pronounceable. It must be noticed that Cuthred, Ulfer, Mired or Mised, and Awlf also occur in the list of witnesses in No. 1, which is probably a charter of near 900 A.D.

In the bounds; the Herepath is perhaps the old road which leads from Langport through Sutton on to Camel Hill, and so to Cadbury Camp. Benham is now Bineham on the east side of Sutton. The statement that the Yeo gives place to the Parrett as a bound of Sutton, implies that at this date part of the latter river flowed from Thorney northward on the east side of Muchelney into the Yeo, as at present the Parrett never comes near the bounds of the parish.

3. Royal commission to inquire into certain rights of common in Kingsmore which is within the manor of Somerton.

King Edward (I) to the Sheriff of Somerset. Whereas Richard de Heydon and Nicholas de Montforte were appointed justices to inquire, in the presence of John de Horstede bailiff of Queen Eleanor in Somerton, by the oath of true and lawful men of the district round Yevelchester; If the Abbot of Athelney, Henry de Urtiaco, Robert de St. Clare, and their men in Sutton Benham and Knolle, have a legal right to common of pasture with any number of animals in Kingsmore by Yevelchester, which ground we lately recovered at the last Justices' Iter at Somerton, and which by our direction remains in possession of our consort; And whereas the said the justices took the inquisition in the absence of John de Horstede, when it appears by the records he should have been present; We now command you not to allow the said Abbot, Henry, Robert or their men to have common of pasture there until you hear from us again. Witness R. de Hengham at Westminster.

4. Inquisition taken under the said Commission, 1285.

The Inquisition was taken at Somerton on a Monday (exact date not given) in the 13th year of King Edward (I) in the presence of R. de Heydon and Nicholas de Montfort. The jury (names not given) say that the Abbot of Athelney and his free men and villains in Sutton, Knolle and Benham on the east side of la Forde, Henry de Urtiaco and his free men and villains in Knolle and Benham, Robert de St. Clare and the men of his holding in Sutton, have always from time immemorial had common of pasture for any number of animals throughout the year, until the King recovered the soil of the more at the Iter of Solomon of Rochester and his associates at Somerton. And therefore it is considered that the abbot and the others should recover seisin of the said common of pasture to be given by the Sheriff, saving the King's rights.

5. Complaint of the abbot and the others to the Lord Chancellor.

The complaint shows that whereas the abbot and the others had proved their rights in the said common of pasture in the presence of John de Horstede the Queen's bailiff; yet the King supposing the bailiff not to have been present, when in very truth he was, ordered the sheriff not to allow them to exercise their rights. The complaint therefore requests that the King will order other justices, in case he was not satisfied with the conduct of the first-appointed, to inquire whether these rights had not been exercised until the King had recovered the soil of the common from the burgesses of Yevelchester at the Iter of Solomon of Rochester.

At length this litigation was settled by the abbot and the others regaining their rights in Kingsmore.

SUTTON-ABBOTS.

6. I, Robert Cosyn, of Sutton have given to the Abbot and Convent of Alyngenie half a virgate of land in Sutton which Richard Fyniam formerly held of me. Witnesses: Sir Brian de Govis, Sir Thomas Trivet, Sir T. de Reyny knights; Robert de Newton, Robert de Scorham, John Kusin son and heir of Robert Kusin. [*Temp.* Edw. I.]

SUTTON.

7. I, Nicholas, son of Wakelin of Sutton do hereby make known that I have released to Abbot Benedict and his successors all my rights by reason of primogeniture in the service of my aunts Agnes and Dionysia, and of Christina daughter of Hugh Silvan my cousin, which they and their heirs may render to the Abbot for their lands of the fee of Athelingnye in Sutton. I make this release in the full county (court) at Ilchester, 25 Nov. 5 Hen. III (1220); and for it the Abbot has given me 35 shillings.

8. Andrew (de Sacre Fonte) Abbot of Athelney A.D. 1281, 9 Ed. I.

9. Richard (de Derham) Abbot of Athelney, 4 Ed. I (1276), Testibus, Sir T. Trivet, Sir W. Everard, Sir William de Gevelton, Henry de Broch, &c.

For Everard, see Muchelney cartulary, No. 22.

10. Grant of Abbot Osmund (de Sowy) to Henry de Urtiaco and John his son of 8 acres of meadow in Littlemore in the manor of Sutton Abbots. Witnesses: William Hare, Will. Loges &c.

Osmund was elected in 1300, and Henry Lord de Urtiaco died 1322. This grant is nearer the later date.

11. Release (in French) by Elizabeth de Middlenye sister and heir of John de Urtiaco of the grant made by Abbot Osmund in No. 10. Witnesses; Sir John de Clyveden, Sir John Beauchamp of Lillesdon, Sir Richard Bakton (Dakton written above, *i.e.* d'Acton), Walter Gophegh, Matthew de Clyvedon, John Isaak, Hugh Voele, and others. Given at Knolle near Long Sutton 38 Edw. III, 1364.

LITTLEMORE.

12. Pardon to the abbot and convent from Richard II in the 6th year of his reign under the following circumstances.

By an inquisition ex officio held by William Cheyne escheator in the reign of Edward III, it was found that the abbot and convent had purchased a pasture called Littlemore containing 34 acres in Long Sutton, the annual value being 66sh. 8d., of Elizabeth who was the wife of Ralph Midelney, John Corbyn and Richard Hare, having equal rights of common in the said pasture, though the soil belonged to the King, without royal licence. The escheator therefore took the land into the King's hand. Subsequently the abbot asserted in the Exchequer that he and his predecessors from time immemorial had been seised of the said pasture, as the right of the church of S. Saviour of Athelney, in the manor of Sutton, which had so been since the foundation of the said Abbey. By an inquisition taken before Henry Percehay under a writ of Nisi Prius, it was found that 8 acres of the 34 formed a meadow which was the separate holding of Elizabeth, the lady of the manor of Knolle, from the festival of the Purification to the Gules of August (*i.e.* 1st) for the sole purpose of making and carrying hay, and from the Gules of August the Abbey have always had the profits of the said 8 acres until the festival of S. Michael, and from that festival unto the Purification the said Elizabeth has had common of pastures in the 8 acres as well as in the rest of the pasture in Littlemore for 8 oxen and one horse (*affrus*), this right being appendant to the manor of Knolle. That the said Elizabeth has given all her profits to the Abbey for ever. That the crop is worth 10sh., and the feeding 12d. We therefore at the request of the Abbot have pardoned his transgression and forfeiture, and have restored the said 10 (*sic*) acres of meadow and the feeding.

13. Homage (French) of Sir Ralph de Middelyne to the honourable man Robert by the grace of God abbot of Athelney for his manor of Knolle, 35 Edw. III (1361).

14. Homage and fealty (French) of Elizabeth widow of Ralph de Middleney to Robert Hache abbot of Athelney for her manor of Knolle, 38 Edw. III (1364).

For the families of Urtiaco and Middleney see *Som. Arch. and N. H. Proc.*, xlii, ii. 26. The king's rights were in no danger of being overlooked in the county at this period.

15. John Beauchamp, John Lorty, knights; John Payn, Robert Halswell, Richard Wely, witnesses, 50 Edw. III (1376–7).

John B. of Lillesdon, John Lorty of Swelle and North Perrott.

16. John Corbyn son and heir of Walter Corbyn atte Loode, &c., witnesses, John de Clyvedon, John Beauchamp de Lillesdon, knights; Matthew de Clyvedon, Peter de Yevelton, Hugh Caucy, esquires, 38 Edw. III (1364).

The family of Corbyn was settled at Little Load in Long Sutton, *temp.* Henry III. No. 21 gives the information that John was the husband of Cecilia, aged 22 years in 1364, who was the daughter and heir of Matilda at Walle, third sister and co-heir of Ralph de Middleney of No. 13.

17. Richard Sydenham, Walter Corbyn, Richard Bere witnesses, 40 Edw. III (1366).

18. Release by Elizabeth de Middelnye sister and heir of Sir John de Urtiaco to Henry de Hache of one ferling of land in Litelode in Knolle in the parish of Lang-Sutton. Witnesses: John de Clyvedon, Richard Dakton, John de Meryet knights; Matthew de Clyvedon, Walter de Wydecombe, John Raleigh, 38 Ed. III (1364).

19. Know all men that I, Sabina de Urtiaco, widow of Henry de Urtiaco, have given to Robert Corbyn and Philippa his wife the land which his father John held in la Lade of my inheritance. Witnesses: the lord Richard de Mucegros, the lord Pharamund de Bolonia, Robert de St. Clare, William Mareschal de la Lade and others.

The date of this charter is within the period 1242–1252. R. de Mucegros was of Charlton Mucegros, near Wincanton. Notices of the other witnesses will be found in the notes on the Muchelney cartulary.

20. John Hywist (Hewish) abbot of Athelney, 22 Ric. II (1399).

21. Cecilia wife of John Corbyn of Littlelade near Lang-Sutton in the county of Somerset 12 Hen. IV (1410–1), John Briggetune being abbot of Athelney.

For Cecilia, see No. 16. As the abbot's name is elsewhere Brigge, I think that -tune is a copyist's error for "*tune*," a separate word in the original.

22. John Chynnock abbot of Glastonbury gives to the abbot and convent of Athelney (with the king's leave) 28 acres of land in Lang-Sutton, 4 Hen. IV (1402). Witnesses: William Stourton, John Panes, John Jerard, Nicholas Poulet, Edmund Lyt and others.

23. I, Hugh de Meryet, for the safety of my soul, as well as those of my parents, wife and boys, have given to God and the monastery of Athelney one burgage at Weston in Langport, which Ivo de Bere held of me, in pure and perpetual alms, Witnesses: Master William de Spaxton, William Fychet, Roger the person of Loccumbe &c.

Weston in Langport, now Langport Westover. Hugh de Meryet, of Merriott, succeeded his father Nicholas in 1229, and died in 1236.

24. Robert, abbot of Athelney, 47 Hen. III (1263). Witnesses: the lord Thomas Trivet, Jordan la Ware then seneschall of Cory Ryvel, &c.

25. Ancelin de Gornay jun. and Johanna his wife, 1348.

Probably of Over-Weare, Coll., i, 185.

26. Charter of Henry [I] king of England.

Henry king of England to the archbishops, &c., and all French and English of all England, greeting. Know ye that I have granted to Ralph "Maledoctus" monk the Abbey of Athelney with the land and all things belonging to the Abbey. And I will and firmly command that he hold it well and peacefully and honourably and quietly and freely, within borough and without, in wood and plain, in mores and meadows, in the water and out of the water and in all places, and in highway and byway; with soche and sache, and tol and them and infangthef, and with all other customs, &c. Witnesses: John cardinal of Crema and Legate of England, William Archbishop of Canterbury, Alexander Bp. of Lincoln, Safrid [Sigefrid] Bp. of Chichester, Anselm abbot of S. Edmund, William abbot of S. Alban, Earl Robert of Gloucester, Earl William of Warenne, William of Tancarville the chamberlain, Gilbert de Clinton, Hugh de Gornay; at Rouen.

An interesting document in many ways. It supplies the name of an abbot hitherto unknown. The appearance of John of Crema as a witness fixes the date as either shortly before Easter, 1125, when the king had summoned the archbishops to meet the Legate in Normandy, or after their return thither in October of the same year. As the Chronicle mentions that Alexander, the bishop of Lincoln, accompanied them on their return journey, being like them bound for Rome, the later date is the most likely.

27. Grant by William Gascoigne sole owner of one third part of the manor of Newton-Plecy lately belonging to John Garton Esq., to John abbot of Athelney of all his right in two shillings rent issuing out of land called "la Lynche" in Somerset. Witnesses: Alexander Hody, John Maunsel, Martin Jacob, and others, 33 Hen. VI (1455).

Newton-Plecy is a manor in North Petherton, and takes its additional name from Hugh de Placetis, *temp.* Hen. III. Richard de Placetis or Plecy died 1292, and his three sisters shared his lands. The portion which fell to Emma, wife of John Heron, was eventually sold to Hugh Garton, whose descendant John passed it to William Gascoigne, 1417, Coll. iii, 69.

28. Grant by Henry de Erlegh for the safety of his soul and those of his ancestors to God and the monks of Athelney of all that portion of moor which lies on the north side of the moor belonging to the Prior of Taunton and to the Sacristan of Athelney, in his moor of Normore. Witnesses: William Malet, Thomas Regny, Thomas Trevet, knights; Robert de Newton, Robert de Scorham, William son of Nigel of Westleng, Benedict the clerk of Athelney, and others.

Northmore lies north-west of Athelney. Henry de Erleigh of Somerton-Erleigh and Beckington succeeded his brother John in 1228, and was living as late as 1270. The priory of Taunton's holding here was his gift also.

Suther-Ashull and Ilton.

29. Memorandum that a parcel of land within the manor of Ashull, which is called Suther-Ashulle is held of the lord abbot [of Athelney] in capite, as is shown below, by the payment of ten shillings and suit at the court at Ilton twice a year.

30. [Record] of the Easter term 9 Ed. II (1316).
Somerset: Thomas de Moleton and Margaret his wife have a convention with Walter bishop of Exeter concerning the manors of Ashull and Sevenhampton.

31. Charter of Robert de Vallibus of half a virgate of land.
I, Robert de Vallibus, have granted to the Church of Athelingenie one half virgate of land of my estate (*rus*) which is called Brunkeshill for the safety of the souls of my father and mother and Isabella my spouse (*spousa*) and of my parents, free from all services and secular demands, &c. Witnesses: Robert de Bellocampo, Ranulph de Vallibus, Gilbert de Lorraine, Savaric de Vallibus, Ralph Sanzaveir, Robert son of William, William son of Nicholas.

32. I, William de Pilaund, rector of Kingston dio. Bath and Wells, steward of the manor of Ashull belonging to (*de*) Walter bishop of Exeter, by direction of the said Lord bishop have received in his name Osmund abbot of Athelney in 10 shillings of annual rent due to the said abbey from Suther-Ashulle being part of the said manor; which part is held of the said abbot in capite by the payment of the annual rent. Witnesses: Ralph de Stokelynche, John Silvein, John Maloysel, John de Winterhegh, William de Lillesdon, 13 Ed. I (1285).

Note on 29–32. For the families of de Vallibus and Moleton, see Muchelney cartulary, note on 54–56. Charter No. 31 may be dated not much later than 1234. The family of Sanzaveir (sine averiis, cf. Lackland) held Spargrove near Milton Clevedon of the abbot of Glastonbury. Thomas de Moleton of No. 30 was the fourth of that name in direct succession. One account makes the year of his death 1313, which must now be corrected. He left an only daughter, Margaret, married in 1317 to Ralph Dacres. The bishop of Exeter's interest in Ashill was most probably only that of trustee.

33. I, Alexander de Pirou, by the intuition of divine piety, and for the soul of my lord Richard de Montacute, and for the safety of mine own soul and that of the lord William my son have given to God and the monastery of S. Saviour S. Peter and S. Athelwine of Athelney, Thomas de Bosco the son of Frewin my rustic with one furlong of land and his whole holding which is near the wood of Knightbere, by the testimony of the Hundred [court], in pure and perpetual alms. And it

shall be lawful for the monastery to covenant with Thomas as it shall be thought best either for personal services or for a money rent (*ad operationes vel ad denarios*). Witnesses: Reginald bishop of Bath, Thomas de Erleghe archdeacon of Bath, Master Walter the prior of Buckland.

The date of this charter lies within the episcopate of Bp. Reginald 1174–1191. Master Walter was the first and probably the last prior of the Augustine canons of Buckland, a house founded by William de Erleigh in or after 1170, and turned about 1180 into a female preceptory of the Hospital of S. John of Jerusalem in England. [Mynchin Buckland, by Rev. T. Hugo, *Som. Arch. Proc.*, x, ii. 1. The mention in the foundation charter of King Henry, son of King Henry, fixes the date rather later than that given on p. 6.]

34. Agreement between Roger abbot of Athelney and Pharamus de Bolonia.

The above parties have made an agreement that Pharamus shall be allowed to inclose an acre of land, together with the crest (*cresta*) of a certain ditch which is dug between the land of the said Pharamus and the land which Walter de Brunkshill held of the said abbot, in his park at Broadway on the east side of the said park; paying yearly at Ilton by the hand of John Blund and his heirs 12 pence. And the said John Blund and his heirs have made oath to the abbot that the payment shall be faithfully made as appears in his charter. Witnesses: Richard abbot of Muchelney, Ralph de Montesorel, Simon de Delington.

This agreement is c. 1230. For Bolonia see Muchelney cartulary notes on Nos. 54–56.

35. I, Fulk de Clehangre, have released in perpetuity to the Abbot and convent of Athelney all my right and title in the road which leads from Filethamford as far as the land which John de Filetham once held. And at the same time I have released whatever right &c. I had in the ways, paths, bounds and limits between the land of the abbey in Ilton and the land of Clehangre. Witnesses: the lord William Everard, Nicholas de Durewille, Thomas Kael.

Clehangre and its owner, a Montsorell as is shown by 36, will be found in Muchelney cartulary, Nos. 18–20. The date is rather later than 1250, about which period William Everard (Much. cart., No. 22) established himself at Stewley. It cannot be much later, for Nicholas de Dureville with his father Robert was party to a final concord in 1201, and witness to a charter in the Bruton cartulary, No. 167, which cannot be later than 1236.

36. I, Fulk de Clehangre, son of Robert de Montsorel, have released and quitclaimed to the abbot and monks of Athelney for 4 shillings, Luke Leching son of John le Ching, from his bondage and service (*nativitas et servagium*) with all his following (*sequela*) belongings and cattle. Witness, Master William de Spaxton, &c.

37. I, Robert de Delington, clerk, have given to God and the church of S. Saviour and of the holy confessor Athelwin at Athelingene, in pure and perpetual alms, 40 pence of annual rent which Thomas son of John de Campo Florido, lord of Addreston, gave to me for my service and homage, which rent the heirs of Emma de Delyngton are bound to payment out of the lands called Premesham and Ferdling, which are of the fee of Addreston. Witnesses: William de Loveny, Robert le Bel, Nigel de Delyngton.

Addreston is written Alardeston in the Plea Roll of Somerset, 9-10 Hen. III, 1225-6 (S.R.S. xi, 380); division of the lands which belonged to the heirs of Thomas de Campo Florido; Athelardeston in a Final concord, 36 Hen. III, 93; and Atherestone in another Final concord, 47 Hen. III, 60. It is now Atherstone in the parish of White Lackington. For Dillington and its early owners see Muchelney cartulary, No. 76.

38. I, Robert de Cnoll, nephew and heir of Robert de Delyngton, have remitted and quitclaimed to the abbot and convent of Athelingeney all my right in Primisham and Ferlin of the fee of Addreston which I formerly held of Joel, son of Warun. Witnesses: Thomas Trivet then steward of Athelingeney, Robert de Humas, Stephen de Staford.

Warin, son of Joel, was guardian of Matilda, youngest daughter and co-heir of Thomas de Campo Florido, v. ref. in S.R.S. xi, 380. One of the two transcribers has transposed father and son.

ASHFORD.

39. I, Elias son of Ralph de Ashford, with the assent of my wife, have released to Roger the abbot and the convent of Athelney the mill of Ashford with the land and meadow, which I formerly held of them. Witnesses: Richard, abbot of Muchelney, Master William de Spaxton, William Paviet. [Roger 1227–1248.]

40. I, Richard de Wroteham and my heirs, hold the mill of Ashford of the abbot of Athelney by this charter: I, Roger abbot have given to Richard de Wroteham and his heirs for his homage and service our mill of Ashford. Witnesses: Ralph de Alra, Geoffrey de la Rode, William de Horsey, Hugh Trivet, Robert de Sydenham, Matthew de Bradene, Roger le Waleis, Roger Barel.

The mill of Ashford, in Ilton parish, is still in working order. For Richard the donee, see Muchelney cartulary, Nos. 33–34.

41. I, John son of Thomas de Ashford, have given to the lord John de Thresk rector of Sutton Montagu all my lands &c. in the parishes of Ilton, Wyghtlakyngton, and South Bradene. Witnesses: John Sylvein, John Delyngton, John Hilecomb, John Knolle. 35 Ed. III (1361).

42. In another charter of John son of Thomas de Ashford; the witnesses are, Walter Beyvin, John Crop of South-Bradene, Thomas Welesleigh, Walter Walsh, Roger Trygel. Dated at Pertrisheis, 35 Ed. III (1361).

43. Grant by John Chuket, Robert atte Hull, William Alrehey and Johanna his wife, and Alice de Northdone, nephews and heirs of Peter de Chubworth to John de Thresk and Walter de Thresk clerks of all the lands &c. which the said Peter had of the gift of John de Hilbar in the Hundred of Abedike; 38 Ed. III (1364). Witnesses: John atte Yoo, Nicholas Bolors, William Portman, John Jurdeyn, John Crop.

44. I, Peter de Yevelton, have given to Peter le Gust for his life all my lands &c. in the manors of Ashford and Ilton, in Cleyhanger, and in the manor of Wyghtlakington. Witnesses: the lords Matthew de Gournay, William Boneville knights; Nicholas Bolour and others.—Ed. III.

45. Royal licence to Richard Sydenham, John Hayf clerk, and John Stanwigy, chaplain, to convey lands in Ilton to the Abbey of Athelney, notwithstanding the statute of "Viris religiosis," for a fine of six marks, to keep a lamp perpetually burning before the crucifix in the church of Athelney, 44 Ed. III (1370).

Nos. 39–45 are a wonderful commentary on the practical working of the Mortmain acts.

STAFORD.

46. I, John de Staford, son and heir of Stephen de Staford, have granted to God and the abbot of Athelyngneye all my right and claim in the property at Staford which was formerly of the fee of the said abbot. Witnesses: Robert de Bellocampo, Nicholas Punz, John Brun, Thomas Trivet, knights; Ralph de Montsorel.

Staford or Stoford, now depopulated, is still reckoned as part of Ilton, though situated in Broadway.

Nicholas Punz or Poinz was son of Helewisa, sister and co-heir of William Mallet of Curry Malet, and in her right owner of the manor. He died 1274.

47. To our beloved in Christ the lord William Everard, William de la Meye, John de la Mershe, Robert Silvestre, William de Hastinges, William Cornard, the widow of John Thursten, John de Staford sends greeting. I pray you to be as attentive to the abbot of Athelynganye in all rents services &c. as you have been to me, for your holdings in Staford.

48. I, John de Scalera, son of Stephen de Staford, have given to the abbot and convent of Athelynge all my right and title to those lands which by the gift of my father have come to me by hereditary right. Witnesses: William Everard knight, Robert Fromond, John de Molendino.

For this last witness see Gerard's Survey under Drayton in South Petherton.

49. Know all men that I, John de Staford son of Stephen de Staford, have given to the church of Alingeneye all the land which is called la Haleacre. Witnesses: Master William de Spaxton, Ralph de Munsorell, Robert de Delyngton, Nigel de Delington, Richard Malhoisel.

50. I, Robert Sylvestre, have given to God and the church of the blessed Athelwin of Athelyngenye, four acres of arable land in Staford in the parish of Ilton. Witnesses: Walter de Luveny, Robert de Cerne, Robert Ashford.

51. I, William styled de Marisco with Matilda my wife, have given to the abbot and convent of Athelingye all that land which I had of the gift of Stephen de Staford. Witnesses: Sir William Everard knight, Roger de Blokysworthy, Roger de Ileford.

52. I, Hugh Hasting son and heir of William Hasting, have given to the abbot and convent of Athelyng' all the right which I had in two acres of arable land in Staford near the forest of Nerethic. Witnesses: Hugh Everard of Stocklinch, Richard de Delyngton, Robert de Ashford, Roger de Ileford.

There is still a Hastings farm between Broadway and Ashill.

53. I, John de Meriet, son and heir of the lord Nicholas de Meriet, have released to the abbot and convent of Athelingye in lands at Staford in the manor of Iltone. Witnesses: John de Bellocampo, William de Moun, Thomas Tryvet, knights; William de Regny and others.

John de Meriet came of age in 1263 and died in 1285. John de Bellocampo succeeded his father Robert about 1266. William de Mohun, brother-in-law of John de Bellocampo, died 1282.

54. I, Thomas de Montsorell, son and heir of Ralph de Montsorell, have conceded for ever to the abbot and convent of Athelingneye a road in Bradeweye which they have of the gift of Ralph le Waleys and Johanna his wife; which said road stretches from the Royal Road which goes towards the forest of Nerecthich as far as the holding of the said abbot and convent at Staford. Witnesses: Andrew Wake, William Everard, knights; Walter Luveny, Geoffrey Scoland, Robert de Montsorell.

Ralph le Waleys married Johanna, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas de Campo-Florido of Atherstone. As this is a hamlet of Whitelackington owned by Montsorell, No. 54 is evidently a confirmation by the overlord. Andrew Wake of Dowlish Wake; he was sheriff 1267, 1268, and dead by 1286 (Ped. Fin., 14 Ed. I, 95).

55. I, John de Ileminster, lord of Meryfeld, have conceded to Robert de Ashford and Cecilia his wife, all my right, &c., in two crofts surrounded by a ditch (*circumfossata*), which they have of the gift of John de Cerne in Ashford. Witnesses: the lord Humphrey de Kael, Ralph Abbot, Thomas de Montsorell, Philip de Bosco.

56. I, John de Ileminster, lord of Murifeld, have conceded to Robert de Ashford and Cecilia his wife all my right in all the land which belonged to William le Mestre des Apses, which they had of the gift of Robert de Cerne in les Apses. Witnesses: Walter de Luveny, Thomas de Montsorell, Hugh Everard, William Silvein, Roger de Stokelynche, William de Tosere clerk, John de Winterhay.

Les Apses, now called Rapps, is a hamlet between Ilton and Broadway. Robert seems a link between Elias, No. 39, and John Ashford, 1361, Nos. 41–42. Nos. 55, 56 belong to the reign of Edward I.

Charter of King Cnut of the Manor of Seven-hampton.

57. All things which here are considered by the minds of men, whether past or present or even those to come, continually changing from day to day sink into ruin without delay, and in the swift passing of years and months and fleeting hours all temporal things haste to an end. Wherefore, as the disposer of all the kingdoms on the earth is God, I Cnut king of the English having considered the future with an anxious mind, that it must needs be that all riches are passing away and will remain but for a very short time, and how to acquire the rewards of heaven which are everlasting and remain for ever; Being instructed by the remembrance of this and strengthened by the universal example of my ancestors I have given a piece of ground, that is two manses (*mansa*) or one perch (*pertica*), in the place which is commonly called Seofenempton for the well known family of God the abbot Athelwin and all his brethren in that holy and celebrated place which is called Athelinganye, to God Almighty and to S. Peter the prince of the apostles with a willing mind, a cheerful face, and with a perfect inclination for the redemption of my soul, and the forgiveness of my sins, and this I grant with all good things for the sustenance of the monastic life of the brethren serving God so as the venerable abbot of that monastery with the monks shall for ever pour out their prayers before the most High God, and daily shall earnestly entreat (*flagitare*) God with psalms and celebrations of masses for my sins that after my death, through the mercy of God and their holy prayers I may be able to attain to the heavenly kingdom. And I have ordered the following addition

to this my charter that if hereafter by chance any person whether of higher or lower dignity shall produce an ancient book of the said land or a chirograph or any other writings of wills (*testamentum*) belonging to this place, they shall be reckoned nothing worth. If anyone with a covetous desire should try to overthrow this instance of our benevolence, or be tempted to diminish it, let him not doubt that he will be whirled amidst the diabolical abyss of torments unless he shall previously have ceased his effort, or made good the loss.

On account of the nearness of the surrounding lands, the aforesaid portions of land are surrounded by this territory—[nevertheless the boundaries of the land are omitted in the Register]; then there is added:

These hierarchs consented whose names are written underneath.

I, Cnut the king, mentioned above have strengthened the conclusion of this mark of privilege for the hierarchy with the sign of the holy Cross. I, Athelnold "Dorovernensis archiepiscopus," have consented. I, Alfsige "Wentanæ ecclesiæ episcopus," have confirmed it. I Brythwold "Coraniensis ecclesiæ episcopus," have strengthened it. I, Brythwig "Fontanæ ecclesiæ episcopus," have agreed. I, Godwyn "dux," have not disapproved. I, Leofric "dux," have acquiesced. I, Brithni abbot, have strengthened it. I, Athelward abbot, have agreed. I, Osged minister, have confirmed it. I, Stigandus presbyter. I, Schitwol minister. I, Athelwold minister. I, Wlfnod minister.

Sevenhampton, now Sevington Abbots, is a manor within the parish of Seavington S. Mary. Although the names of the witnesses are not very correctly given, they all agree with the episcopal lists, and by their means the date of the charter can be fixed within narrow limits. The donor's reign is in the period 1016–1035. The archbishop of Canterbury Ethelnoth, 1020–1038; the bishop of Winchester Elfsige, 1014–1032; Brythwald, bishop of Ramsbury,* 1005–1025; Brithwin, bishop of Wells, was deposed in 1013 in favour of Athelwin, then restored, and most probably died by 1027. So the charter must be dated 1020–1025. One can only draw attention to the presence of the famous triumvirate; Earl Leofric, Earl Godwin, and Stigand, presbyter now, but to end as "Dorovernensis archiepiscopus."

58. Grant by John Beauchamp of Hache chivaler to Osmund the abbot of Athelney of the crop, whether wheat, oats

* I read Corvinensis for Coraniensis, which is impossible.

or rye, of one half acre of land in Frogmore in his manor of Shipton Beauchamp. Witnesses: Sir Symond de Aston, John de la Stane, Laurenz de Delyngton, Johan Sylvein and others [French].

59. Let it be known to all men by these presents that we Osmund abbot of Athelingenye and the convent there have received the lord John de Beauchamp defunct, the lady Cecilia late his wife, the lord John their son, the lady Johanna his wife and their children, ancestors and successors in all benefits alms and prayers which have been or shall be in our church of Athelingenye for ever. Further we will and concede that the names of the said persons when they die shall be written in our martyrology, and the anniversary of the same every year on the 9, Kal. Novembris *i.e.* 24th Oct., which is the day of the anniversary of the said lord John deceased, when thirteen poor people [shall be fed]. For this concession the said lady Cecilia and her son John have granted to the Abbey a certain common of pasture which they had in the open season (*tempore aperto*) in a meadow within our manor of Ilton, which lies between Hortemede and Stapelmede and is inclosed by a ditch. Witnesses: Gilbert de Cnoyvyle, William de Staunton, knights; John de Sylveyn, John de Ashlond, Laurence de Delyngton, and others. Given at Athelney on the fest. S. Benedict abbot, 1307.

No. 59 will be found in the Beauchamp cartulary, and is noted by Mr. Batten in the Barony of Beauchamp of Somerset, *Som. Arch. Proc.*, xxxvi, ii. 35 seq. 58 is the sequel to 87 of this cartulary as will be noted later on. The transcription of 58 is defective in places, and has been filled in from the copy in the Beauchamp cartulary, where the date is given as 1302.

60. I, Benedict abbot of Athelingenye, have given to our faithful Herebert son of Hugh of Ashford for his homage and service, one virgate and a half of land which the said Hugh held at Ashford part of our manor of Ilton. Witnesses: Robert then Dean of North-Cory, Walter chaplain of North-Cory, Simon de Pillesdon, Simon de Delyngton, Nigel his son, Thomas de Perham, Robert de Bradene, Richard Malhoisel, Hugh de Montsorel and others.

This Benedict died in 1227. Robert the vicar was rural dean at the time.

Charter of William Malet.

61. Know all men that I, William Malet son of Gilbert Malet, have given to God, and S. Mary and S. Athelwin, and the convent of Athelingenye eight acres of my land in Cumptun, and half an acre of the meadow of Raddekera, and one messuage with a courtyard which is between the messuage of Robert de Fonte and the messuage of Godfrey Servere for the safety of the souls of my ancestors and myself. Of the said land three acres are in Dunfurlang on the west side of Cumptun part of the land which John son of Geoffrey held, and two acres and a half are on the east side, of the land which Osegod the miller held, and one acre lies under Aggaresclive, and one acre in Budekerwey. And this charter I have confirmed by my seal. Witnesses: Ralph son of William, Roger de Rannel, Ralph Malet, James son of Girald, William de Draycote, Thomas de Flury, Robert Malet, and others.

Compton, now amalgamated with Dunden, was held by the family of Malet until 1216; when William Malet son of Gilbert, the donor, being found in arms against the king, all his lands were seized, and Compton granted to Hugh de Vivonne (Collinson, iii, 447).

Charter of Breorhtric the king of land in Hamme made to Wigfruth.

62. Our Lord Jesus Christ reigns for ever and disposes this world with an excellent management, yet all things in this earth given for relief are only for a season, but those things which are promised to the just in the kingdom of eternal life shall remain for ever. Therefore the wise and provident strive mightily after the heavenly and enduring rewards. So I, Breorhtric king of this province, for the safety of my soul and the expiation of my sins have joyfully given a certain portion of land, that is ten cassates, on the north bank of the river Pedride to Wigfruth my most dear prefect, all the more willingly because he has laboured diligently and humbly in our service even beyond his powers. "Ita et nunc et semper Deo adjuvante vitaque comite eum fecisse credimus." On which account I determine to strengthen the gift of this munificence with this condition: that he have free power to hold or to give if he like, or even of

leaving it after his death to any heir he likes. This land is marked out by these bounds. On the east side it has its bound at the east part of the field which the inhabitants call Ham. Then the boundary goes to the south to a watery place which by the neighbours is called Swanmore. Then the boundary goes northward to a muddy river which the men of that place call Holobrouk. And then to the west it has its limit on a mound on the top of which a stone is placed, and it is therefore called Stanborw. Then from the mound to the southern bank of a stream which is called Bradenflot. Then to a marshy rivulet; and thence northward to a ditch called Candeldich. And then by a trench (*sulcus*) to Three stones, and so to a narrow way leading to the west. And then to the north to a stone, and from that stone by the northern bound to some deep pits which are Chalceat. And from these pits to the top of the place to a fruitful tree, that is "Perie." And thence to the west by the public road to the tree (*lignum*) which (*quos, sic*) they call Barlotes Trew. Then from the south it goes by a rivulet down to the marsh of the river Petride. This charter of privilege was written A.D. 794 in the place which is called Wyndingesley in the presence of fit witnesses, and with the agreements expressly named and noted below.

I, Breorhtric, king, confirm this my charter with my hand, strengthening it with the Lord's sign ✠. And I Breorhtric, for the increase of the gift and the relief of my soul, by the consent of the bishops and all my princes, have most willingly further granted, that he shall have freedom from all taxes, duties and royal dues, and all things which belong to a royal town (*ad villam regiam*) excepting only service on the water which all guards (*comites*) are bound to discharge for the safety of the whole province and especially of the churches of God.

Breorhtric, king of the West Saxons, succeeded Cynewulf in 786, and died in 802; when Egbert ascended the throne, and, nominally at least, made himself king of all England.

Charter of King Edwy concerning Hamme.

63. Our Lord Jesus Christ reigns for ever. When we daily perceive all times of fleeting life to be made up of prosperous and unfortunate affairs; and it is everywhere most openly proved by the rapid passage of years and reigns that all joys

have an end. Therefore I, Edwi, king of the English, having by the hand of God obtained the kingdom, being mindful of eternal happiness, willingly concede to my old servant Ceolward a portion of land belonging to me as a gift for ever; which is one manse in that district which the dwellers call Ham on the west bank of the river Pedride; so that he may enjoy and possess it continually as long as he lives, and afterwards he may leave it to whatever heir he may choose for a perpetual inheritance.

These are the territories of this gift, [not given].

This gift was made A.D. 958, indict. 2.

I, Edwi, king of the English, have confirmed the said gift with the sign of the Holy Cross ✠. I, Birliterin, "Dorobernensis ecclesiæ episcopus," have signed. I, Birliterin bishop of Winchester have agreed. I, Osulf, bishop have impressed (my mark). I, Alfwold bishop, have confirmed it. I, Daniel bishop have agreed. I, Elfgar the king's friend, have assented. I, Osward have signed. I, Osulf his brother, have agreed. I, Edmund "dux," have confirmed it. I, Alfer minister, was present. I, Alred minister, have assented.

This land of Hamme King Athelred afterwards gave to the abbey of Athelney.

Of the bishop-witnesses, all except the first can be identified. Birliterin (Brithelm) of Winchester 958; Osulf (Oswulf) of Ramsbury 934; Alfwold (Alfwald) of Sherborne 958; Daniel of Cornwall at this period. There is no bishop of Dorchester (Lincoln named Birliterin at this date, even if he were allowed to sign before Winchester); but there was a bishop of London of this name, and as he only could rightly precede, it is most probable that a copyist has followed the list of witnesses in No. 64, and written "Dorobernensis" for "Londiniensis."

Charter of King Athelred.

64. In the name of the Creator and Ruler the Holy Trinity God Almighty. Who only possesses and preserves a kingdom unchangeable incorruptible and ineffable with an everlasting power.

I, Athelred by the permission of Christ, king and chief ruler of all Albion, for the relief of my soul do freely give a small portion of land reckoned at three perches in a place known as Hamme to the Monastery (*monasteriolum*) of the most holy chief of the apostles which is called Athelinganye for the

increase of the monastic life of the dwellers in Christ under Alfric the abbot so that they shall strive the more earnestly to avoid any cessation of their prayers for our frailty. And we particularly free this gift from all secular service unless there shall be a general levy to make barriers or moats before an hostile army, or to construct a royal bridge or to join a royal march.

To those destroying our decree may the gates of Paradise be closed, and to those increasing it may the Almighty King of Kings grant them the joys of the citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem for ever.

This donation was made A.D. 1007, Indict. 7 ; in the presence of the witnesses who appear underneath.

I, king Athelred, have confirmed this mark of privilege with the sacred sign ✠. I, Elfeal "Doroberniensis ecclesiæ archiepiscopus," have confirmed the gift of the king with the sign of the Holy cross. I, Wlstan archbishop of York, have consented and subscribed. I, Athelstan clito, I, Edmund clito, I, Edred clito, I, Alfin bishop, I, Athelwold bishop, I, Lyfing bishop, I, Brythwold bishop, I, Ethelric bishop, I, Alfward abbot, I, Elfige abbot, I, Brithwold abbot, I, Alfric dux, I, Leofwine dux, I, Uthred dux, I, Athelmer minister, I, Elfgar minister, I, Brithric minister.

Of these witnesses : Alfin is probably Elfwin, bishop of London, 1004–1014 ; Athelwold or Æthelwold, bishop of Winchester, 1006–1014 ; Brythwold, bishop of Ramsbury ; Ethelric, of Sherborne, 1001–1009. Lyfing may be the bishop of Cornwall otherwise Living, about this period. Athelstan and Edred, sons of the king, died before their father ; Edmund "Ironside," succeeded 1016 and died the following year.

Ham, now called Hamp, occupies the southern portion of the parish of Bridgewater, west of the river Parrett.

Charter of Abbot Simon.

65. Grant by Simon at the request of all the monks to Roger his servant in fee of the land of Everlega which Alward freely held by yearly payment of half a mark for all rustic services. And if it should happen, as it often does, that a "donum" shall come upon the vill to which the land is adjacent, or geld, or anything of the kind, then Roger shall discharge the land for half a virgate. The witnesses to this convention were Thomas de Erlega clerk, and Roger the clerk of Pederton.

EVERLEGH.

66. I, Benedict abbot of Athelney, by the request and consent of all the monks have granted to Roger the land which my predecessor Simon had granted to him [as in 65]. Witnesses: Daniel a monk of Montacute, and others.

Everlegh was evidently some part of Ham ; it may be near and in contrast with Durleigh. There were two abbots named Benedict ; the earlier one about 1160, and the second 1198–1227. As Simon is a witness to a charter of Bishop Robert in 1136 (Bath cartularies, i, 61), it must be the earlier Benedict.

67. Grant by William de Everlegh, son and heir of Geoffrey de Everlegh to the abbot and convent of Athelney of all his right and claim (to that) which Richard Wasun formerly held of him. Witnesses: Thomas de Regny, Hugh Fychet, Thomas Trivet knights, William vicar of Brug', Robert de Blakeny and others.

By a fine levied 1256 (Ped. Fin. 40 Hen. III, No. 162), Richard Wasun of Bridgewater recovered a messuage and nine acres of land in Everleg. Richard Wasun and John de Everleye were indicted for damage to a watercourse in Enmore, 1253 (Assize Rolls of Somerset, S.R.S. xi, 1456).

HAMME.

68. In the 34th year of the reign of Edward I, an agreement was made between brother Osmund abbot of Athelney and Agnes late wife of Richard Wasun. [No particulars.]

69. Know all men present and to come that I, Henry de Erleghe, have granted to the Convent of Athlyngenye the suit at the Hundred (court) and at the courts of North-Pederton both within and without, while they and their men used to do before the date of this charter. Nevertheless that their tithing man of Hamme whom they wish to send for their Plea shall appear twice in the year at the said Hundred (court) on a reasonable summons of three clear days between the day of the summons and the Court day, as well as for the King's peace. Yet it shall be allowable for the Convent and their bailiffs to take the pleas of all their men at Hamme and elsewhere, in their court at Hamme, wherever the pleas have their beginning, and to take them so altered as in the free manor which they held in capite

of royal donation without any harm or opposition of my heirs or their bailiffs. Witnesses: Sir Thomas Trivet, Sir Thomas Regny knights; John de Marisco, Robert Bursy, John and Walter de Cheselade, William Wasun.

Henry de Erleigh was owner of North Petherton, 1228–1270. As several of the witnesses were alive about 1300, the charter was probably granted towards the end of his life.

70. Release by Walter son of Geoffrey Besenin to the Abbot and Convent of all his rights in the manor of Hamme, and in a ferling of land which R. Frode used to hold in the said manor. Witness, Master William de Spaxton and others. [Early part of 13th century.]

71. Grant by abbot Osmund to William Punchardon of the "maritagium" of Philip son and heir of Richard Wason to Dionysia daughter of the said William, 35 Ed. I (1307).

72. I, Geoffrey de Wlmerston, am bound to divide the moor of Stokmore in the way described below [not given], A.D. 1242.

Stockmore is between Hamp and North Petherton.

73. Grant by William de Raleghe to God and the church of Athelyngye of an acre of meadow in the middle of his meadow of Greibi at Dunwere. Witnesses: Master William de Spaxton, William de Horsy, Hugh Fichet of Spaxton, William Fichet of Merridge (Merȳg), Geoffrey Fichet of Sutton.

William de Raleg' the donor recovered five and a half acres of meadow in Dunwere from William de Horsi at the assizes, 1225 (S.R.S. xi, 295). In 1242 Little Sutton in the Hundred of Whitley belonged to William Fichet. Dunwere is on the opposite side of the Parrett to Hamp.

74. Grant by Richard Kelyng son and heir of William Kelyng of Bruges [Brig-Walter] to Roger the abbot of Athelney of all his right in the land which his father held in the manor of Hamme. Witnesses: Walter de Kentulesbare, Thomas Trivet, Robert de Scorham, Robert de Cocre, and others.

Roger, prior of Athelney, became abbot in 1227; he is party to a Final concord in 1241; abbot Robert is first mentioned in 1248.

75. Grant by Walter de Dudesham to Roger the abbot of five acres of arable land in Suthmore within the manor of Hamme. Witnesses: Walter de Kentlesbere, Robert de Cokes, &c.

Dodisham, a hamlet in Cannington, is mentioned in Domesday. It gave a surname to a family who lasted down to the reign of Ed. IV.

76. William Pancock son and heir of Walter Pancock, same witnesses, gives lands in Suthmore in Hamme. Thomas Trivet, then steward of Atheling'.

77. Robert Scorham of Brug-Walter, [in No. 74].

ADESCOMBE.

78. I, Roger de Amaray with the assent and desire of Juliana my wife have given to Robert the abbot of Athelney, all the land of Adescombe which I had from my said wife. Witnesses: Thomas Trivet, William Fichet, knights.

Adscombe is in the parish of Over-Stowey. The family of Amaury had property in the Hundred of Keynsham in the thirteenth century. Robert was abbot within the period 1248–1263.

79. Grant by John de Huppeton son of Richard de Huppeton to the abbot and convent of all his rents, services, &c. in Adescombe. Witnesses: Sir Robert Stanton, Sir Hugh Fichet of Spaxton, Sir Robert de Chilton, knights; William de Cnapeloc and others.

80. I, Matilda de Chandos for the love of God and the safety of my soul and the soul of Roger de Staweie, have given to God and the church of S. Athelwin of Athelyng', Edmund Buley with his suit. Witnesses: Robert, parson of Wolavington, Richard the chaplain of Stowey, and others.

Matilda de Candos was the only daughter and heir of Walter de Candos of Nether Stowey. She married Philip de Columbariis, and "continued many years a widow after her husband's death in 1186, and in all her deeds retained her paternal name, both at the time of and after her coverture as was usual when the wife's quality was greater than that of the husband." Col. III, 551.

81. Release by William Fichet of Brummore to the abbey, of all his land and wood of Adescumbe, &c. which Robert de Sco. Claro gave to him for his homage and service. Witnesses: the lord William Malet, the lord William Fichet, and others.

Brummore now Brymore in Cannington. William Fichet was owner *temp.* Henry III.

82. Grant by Philip de Columbers III to God and the church of Athelney of the rents and services (due from) Henry de la More. Witnesses: Richard lord abbot of Muchelney, the lord Richard de Wrotham, Master William de Spaxton.

The donor was grandson of Philip de Columbers I and Matilda de Candos (see note on 80). He succeeded his father Philip de Columbers II in 1216. As Richard, abbot of Muchelney, was dead in 1237, the charter can be dated within this period.

83. I, Robert by divine permission abbot of Athelney with the convent, have granted to Walter le heir of Sowey a close of meadow called Burgh-mede which Walter atte Burgh and Alice his wife formerly held of us. Witnesses: Richard de Acton, John Tyan, John de Stratford, and others, 10 Ed. III [1336].

84. I, Benedict by the grace of God, abbot of Athelyngye and of all that place, with our usual conventual council, have granted at the request of R. our prior, a place in our manor of Hamme to provide a lamp in the chapel of the Blessed Mary. And lest our gift should at any future time by human perversity be called in question, I, brother Benedict by the general consent of all our brethren have written the said grant in the book of the blessed Dunstan, A.D. 1225.

85. Domesday (Exchequer) survey of Long Sutton, Ilton, Sevenhampton, Hamm, Lenge, Montacute, and the encroachments of the Count of Mortain in Ashill, of Roger de Curcelle in Sutton, and of Ralph de Limesey in Bossington.

As the extracts are not given very correctly, and the printed copies, both of the originals and translation are quite accessible, it does not seem necessary to reprint the survey.

86. Grant by Benedict abbot of Athelney to Maurice of Sutton and Diana his wife of one virgate of land in Sutton

which is called "in le Hurne," which Walcolin son of Robert used to hold. Witnesses: Richard, abbot of Muchelney, the lord William Malat, Ralph de Aure and others. [Early 13th century.]

87. Benedict by the grace of God abbot of Athelingenye and the convent of that place to all their men neighbours and friends, French and English, present and to come, greeting. We have conceded to R. de Bellocampo and his heirs, his right in the land which is called Frogemore for which he shall pay one marc of silver, and also shall acquit the land for one half hide at the general assizes of the county. Further we have conceded to the said Robert his ancestors and heirs the benefit of our church, and have allowed them fellowship in the general chapter. This agreement he has strengthened by taking the abbot's right hand, and hath promised to serve the church faithfully in all things. And he will go on the pleas and business of the church, whenever he shall be called, as a friend and faithful brother. And for the acknowledgement of this agreement he has given to the abbot half a marc of silver, and to the convent two sextaries of honey. Witnesses: Eustace the archdeacon [Robert Bp. of Bath, Hugh de Turnai archdeacon, Robert archdeacon, Ivo dean of Wells, Reginald chanter, Richard de Soc writer, Ralph Prior of Athelney, Arnold monk, Richard de Raddon, Richard de Montacute, Simon de Cant, William Fitzodbert and Richard his son, Roger Fitzovert and Robert his son, Ralph clerk of Cinnoc, Edward de Soc, Richard——— Geoffrey clerk of———, John Clerk, Simon Clerk, Niger brother of the abbot, Roger de Westle, John de Stubbs?, and many others. Farewell].

This last portion within brackets is added from Hugo's transcript of the copy of this charter in the Beauchamp Cartulary. The date must be before 1160 when Richard of Spaxton succeeded Ivo in the deanery of Wells. As Hugh of Tournay was archdeacon of Bath in 1140, and Robert, archdeacon of Bath, in 1135, Eustace must be the archdeacon of Taunton. Richard de Raddon was sheriff of the county at intervals between 1155 and 1164, and Robert de Bellocampo in 1162. So the date of the charter is *c.* 1150.

Frogemore is no doubt situated in the south-east corner of Shepton Beauchamp, where a lane called Frogmary leads towards South Petherton. It is again referred to in No. 58, while 59 is a record of a similar arrangement made with a later generation of the Beauchamp family.

88. I Roger, son of William Nigell, of West-Lenge, have performed my homage and fealty to Andrew, the lord abbot of

Athelingenye, for the lands which my brother John gave me in West-Lenge, which formerly belonged to William my father. Witnesses: Richard de Nyweton, John de Marisco, Robert Tyan, Regor Ferendon, Hugh de la Hele.

Andrew of Wells (de Sacre Fonte) was abbot 1280–1300.

89. I Roger, by divine grace abbot of Atheling', the chapter of our church consenting, have confirmed the gift which our predecessor of good memory, abbot Benedict, made to our faithful servant, Roger, of West-Lenge, and to his heirs for his service, viz., 2 virgates of land, one in West-Lenge and another in Sutton, and 2 acres of meadow in Northmore, which he holds of our Church "hereditarie" freely and quietly, with all things belonging thereto in mores, water and meadows, rendering yearly 7*s.* for all service excepting the "Utibanne."

Curiously enough each of the two Abbots Roger succeeded a Benedict. In this charter the mention of the "Utibanne" probably indicates the earlier Roger 1174–1192.

90. Receipt by Thomas de Mareberge, sheriff of Somerset, from the abbot of Athelney of 20*s.* being the aid due from half a knight's fee in Hamme to marrying the eldest daughter of Edward, king of England. 18 Ed. (I).

91. Memorandum that Henry IV, king of England, in the 3rd year of his reign, took from every knight's fee which is held *in capite* or mediately of the King 20*s.*, and from half a knight's fee 10*s.* to marrying his eldest daughter Blanche to the son of the Emperor of Germany. And then the sheriff received 10*s.* for Hamme near Bruggewater. And all the other manors belonging to the abbey are held in pure and perpetual alms.

92. I Roger, abbot of Athelney, have conceded to Simon de Delington and his heirs, for his homage and service the land which is called Fotland in our manor of Ilton, with the "spot-ellis" to the said land belonging on the south side even to the old divisions (*veteres divisæ*) which are between the said land and that of Richard Maloysel and so to the stream (*riparia*), in the same way as the said Simon formerly held the said holding, and all that meadow which stretches from Redemede to the

stream (*riparia*) which divides the manors of Ilton and Ilmynster. Witnesses: Richard, the lord abbot of Muchelney, Master William de Spaxton, and others.

Abbot Roger succeeded 1227, and Abbot Richard of Muchelney died 1237, so the charter is between these limits. For the family of Dillington and Maloysel, see Muchelney cartulary, No. 76, and note. The stream is that called Backstream, which for nearly a mile is the boundary between the two parishes. The "old divisions" may be the abbey ditch from which the Hundred of Abdick may take its name, but it was not, here at least, the boundary of the Hundred for Ilton is included in it.

93. Memorandum that whereas a controversy has arisen between Osmund, the abbot of Athelney and Johanna, the widow of Laurence de Dillington concerning a piece of land in Ilton called Fetlonde, which the abbot took in his own hand on the death of the said Laurence because, as he says, it was held by military service, and therefore the custody of the land should belong to him until the heir is of full age. Johanna says that the land was held in socage, and so the custody of the land for the use of the heir while under age belongs to her as his mother and next of kin. And she tenders a charter of feoffment of the said land of doubtful purport (*sub dubio intellectum*) a copy of which is possessed by the said abbot. Then because the charter is a subject of doubt, peace by the exertions of mutual friends has been restored between the abbot and Johanna in this manner. That Johanna shall give to the abbot 13*s.* and 4*d.* in silver for the custody of the land by an unshaken right to hold it until Thomas, son of the said Laurence, shall come of age, who shall then render his homage and service to the abbot if he shall think it necessary. Given at Athelney. 6 Ed. II (1312–3).

ASHLEGHE.

94. I, Isota de Ferrariis, with the consent and by the wish of my son Alexander, for the honour of God and the safety of my soul, and for the soul of Robert de London, my brother, and of William my son, and of all my parents and friends do renew and confirm to the church of Athelneye my gift of the mill of Ashelega, which I have given to them for ever for hospitality (*ad susceptionem hospitum*).

95. I Maurice of London, make it known, that seeing the goodness and piety of the beloved in Christ, the abbot and

monks of Athelney, I do renew and confirm the gift which the lady Isota de Ferrariis, my mother, has made of the mill of Ashelega, and do add to it all the land between the new ditch and Than, viz., the land which is called Pleyham.

96. Recognition by Robert de London that he and his heirs are bound to pay yearly to the house of Athelneye at Ashlega on the festival of S. Michael 10*s.* sterling for all service and demands which his father Maurice agreed should be paid yearly from the mill of Ashelega.

From the reference in No. 126 it appears that Astlega was in Devonshire. Robert de Lond', knight, is mentioned in the Pleas of 32 Hen. III (1248), S.R.S. xi, 1347. I cannot find out the exact location of Ashleigh.

Charter of King Athelstane of the Gift of the Manor of Lenge.

97. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who from the highest place in heaven ruleth all things visible and invisible in due order. Wherefore I, Athelstan, king of all Albion do freely and humbly give a certain piece of land in my possession for an everlasting gift to Almighty God my Benefactor, and to St. Peter for the church which Alfred the king, my grandfather, built in Athelyngay, that it may for ever remain secure and free from liability to all royal dues, and from obligatory works and great matters and penal causes and legal proceedings, and from any molestation of secular service And the amount of this land is one manse (*mansio*) in the place which is called Relengen on the west side of his town (*oppidum*), as long as the abbot and brethren of that church do not cease to pray for the souls of Alfred and myself.

These are the boundaries of the land. First unto Gorlak thanne to Bykenstile, from that stile to the Whitston, thans unto ye old Ditch, from thulk dich to Depebroke in the old Diche place, then to the five acres, from ye five acres unto the Hundslawe, and swo adown to the slo and from the slo to Riselheie, thans to Whatombshey, and so adoune to the Oldherworth and thennes to Brodemarsh to the Reddich end along the dich anon to Turek, from thenns to Privetesmoreshed, anon to the middle of Privetesbrigg, and thens ende longest more anon to Threskwold and thens to Asklake, from Asklake unto the old Lake up

into Chester-lake and unto Toteyyate, from Toteyate to Hengest Were, from Hengest Were into Hornwere, from Hornwere unto Shirwoldslode, eftsones into Gorlake.

This donation was made A.D. 937, indict. 4, and is agreed to by the following witnesses: I, Athelstan, king of all Britain, have confirmed this gift with the sign of the cross ✠. I, Wulfhun, "Dorobernensis ecclesiæ archiepiscopus" have confirmed it. I, Alpheah bishop, have signed it. I, Theolred bishop, have signed it. I, Cenwald bishop, have agreed. I, Wulfhun bishop, have conceded it. I, Odo bishop, have agreed. I, Alfheus bishop, have agreed. I, Athelgar bishop, have agreed. I, Alwold dux, I, Utred dux, and Sigered minister, I, Wefsige minister, I, Alfrig minister, I, Sitof minister, I, Edric minister, I, Odda minister, I, Alfric minister, I, Alfer minister, I, Alfuod minister, I, Aderstan minister, I, Welaf minister, I, Wlgar minister, I, Edmond minister.

Alpheah, bishop of Winchester; Theolred (Theodred), bishop of London; Cenwald (Kynewold), bishop of Worcester; Wulfhun, bishop of Chichester; Odo, bishop of Ramsbury; Alfheus, bishop of Wells; Athelgar (Ethelgar), bishop of Crediton.

Charter of Count Maenchi.

98. He who wishes for the kingdom of God builds the house of God. Maenchi the count, son of Pretignor, for his desire for the heavenly kingdom has given to St. Heldenus (Athelwin) Lanlovern for an everlasting possession (*in Diocesim sempiternam*), for his soul with all the land and pools (*coretis*) belonging. He has executed this (deed) in the land of the Saxons in the island of Adalne (Athalnay), in the reign of king Athelstan on the festival of All Saints, before the altar of SS. Peter and Paul, in the sight of God and all His saints, in the presence of Seignus the abbot. Whosoever alters or takes by force or will not agree to this gift, let him be anathema from God and St. Heldenus and all the saints.

This gift had been lost before Doomsday. King Athelstan greatly increased the hold of the Saxon over Devon and Cornwall, where Lanlovern may be supposed to have been. The charter supplies an additional abbot.

99. Agreement made in the fifteenth year of the reign of King John between Benedict, abbot of Athelyng and John de

Erlega on the morrow of fest. S. Peter ad vinc. [2 Aug. 1213]. The abbot recognises the whole moor between Leng and the park of Periton (Petherton) which he formerly held, to be the right of the said John since he brought an order from the king to have it surveyed by thirty free and law-worthy men of the neighbourhood. For this recognition John has given to the abbot one hundred acres of the said moor measured from Purprestmore towards the west under Leng from a certain land towards the said moor and forty perches in length. Also John has conceded to the abbot and his men of Leng and West-Leng common of pasture in all the moor where the animals of John and his men are; and brushwood and firewood (*claustura et fualia*), sufficient for the abbot's court at West Lenge and his men, under Leng in the moor by the view of the servant of the said John whom he shall appoint, preserving the road which goes from Leng to the said moor, for one pair of monastic boots (*botalium monachalium*) to be rendered annually at the feast of S. Michael. Further the said John de Erlega has conceded to the abbot and confirmed by this chirograph all the land which Wineman de Hethcumbe held in Vernton. Then the said abbot gives to the said John and his heirs six (*deinas*) of land in the curtilage of Walter Absalon in the corner of his curtilage near the moor in Lenge. Benedict the abbot and Simon the prior and Adam the precentor of Athalyngneye have confirmed this agreement to be kept faithfully and without deceit. And Thomas de Brent and Roger de Marisco, and William, son of Nigel, have affirmed it on behalf of the abbot. And the said John and John de Regni and Ralph de Alre and Geoffrey de la Rode with the said John have also affirmed it. Witnesses: Master Gregory, the hospitaler, Robert de Lega, and others. [See No. 164.]

100. Grant by Henry de Erlega to the abbey of Athelney of the rents and services due from the prior and convent of Taunton for the moor with its belongings under Lenge in Nordmoor "which they formerly held of me." Witnesses: the lord William Malet, the lord Hugh Fichet, and others.

Henry de Erlega succeeded his brother John, 1228, and died in or before 1272.

101. Grant by Henry de Erleghe to God and the monastery of S. Saviour, S. Peter and S. Athelwin confessor, of a certain meadow called Muridones heching which extends from the meadow called Flokesmede to Nordmore. Witnesses: John de Brutesche, Thomas Trivet, knights; and others.

Part of Northmoor "subtus" Lyng is still called Hitchings.

102. To all, etc., I, Henry de Erthlega, knight, greeting. Know that I, moved by the inspiration of divine love have given and confirmed to God and the church of Athelyngneye forty acres of moor under Lenge with all belonging in Northmore, for the acquirement of fuel (*fuallia*) of which the monks are often in want; they making every year on the day of my anniversary in the convent a solemn service with a pittance in the refectory on that day that I may be had in special remembrance, and the abbot who then shall be, shall honourably entertain thirteen poor persons in the said house of Athelney on that day for ever. Witnesses: Robert, prior of Taunton, John de Aure, and others.

Robert the prior is not mentioned in Hugo's history of the priory. He was party to a Final Concord, 1236, 20 H. III, 180.

103. Gift by Henry de Erleghe to the abbey of Athelney of all that portion of moor in Northmoor under Lenge which lies between Ruddingham (the land) of William, son of Nigel, of West-Leng and (the land) of Walter Cook (*cocus*) of Durston. Witnesses: Hugh Fichet, Thomas Trivet, William Fichet, knights.

104. In another charter of the said Henry de Erleghe, the witnesses are the lords Robert de Bellocampo, John Britashe, and others.

No details given. The last Robert de Beauchamp IV died about 1266. A John de Bretesche died 1287, lord of Thrubwell in this county.

105. Gift by Henry de Erleghe to God and the church of Athelney of fifteen acres of meadow in a certain meadow called Burtonsmede in his manor of North-Pederton which Robert de

Scorham formerly held of him. Witnesses: Thomas Trivet, William de Plessetis, and others.

There are other charters of the same Henry de Erleghe in which he makes other gifts to the Abbey.

106. I, Richard de Neweton, have released to Richard, abbot of Athelney, in perpetuity all my right and claim in the moors or the enclosures thereto belonging in Northmore in the manor of North-Pederton, which they have of the gift of Henry de Erleghe knight, together with the right of conveyance in boats from Athelneye to Yevelchester at the (time of the) Iter of the Justices, which the said abbot was bound to provide me; so that neither I nor my heirs shall be able to demand this right of conveyance for the future. Witnesses: William de Plessetis, John de Thurlokeston.

Richard de Derham, abbot 1267–1280; William de Plessetis died 1276; so the date of the release is within 1267–1276. See No. 109.

107. Release by Thomas de Regny, lord of Rode, to the abbot and convent of Athelney of all his right in his moors and enclosures in Northmore from the gift and concession of Henry de Erleghe made before the fest. S. Peter *ad vincula* 40 Hen. III, (1256). Witnesses: Thomas Trivet, Robert de Newton.

108. Roger Barel of North Petherton. Witnesses: Robert de Newton, John de Marisco.

109. I, Richard, son of Reginald de Newton have given to God and the monks of the church of Athelney, one messuage in Lenge which they shall hold of me and my heirs by the service of conveying by water me and my heirs, at first me and four men of Newton against the coming of the justices in eyre to Ivelchester once in the year at our costs.

Witnesses: the abbot of Muchelney, William de Baggedrip (See No. 106.)

110. I, Richard de Newton-Hawys, have given to the Abbey of Athelney a full right of way for riding, walking, leading both in carts and waggons and in all other kinds of vehicles, and driving cattle and flocks and all other kinds of animals at all times of the year whenever and as often as they shall think fit,

beyond my land which is called la Dune in that way which extends from Newton-Hawys towards Tatenesberg. Witnesses: Geoffrey de Wrockshale knight, Nicholas Peche and others

NORTH-PEDERTON.

111. Grant by Martin Bigegod to the church of Athelneye of four acres of arable land next to the holding of Robert Edrich in the manor of North-Pederton. Witnesses: Robert de Newton, John de Marisco and others.

112. We, Walter Mansel of North-Pederton and Alice my wife, daughter of Martin Bigegod, have conceded to the Abbey all our right in a ditch in land belonging to the said abbey which Adam Bigegod held on the west side of the water of Pereth next to our land in the manor of North-Pederton. In which ditch we claimed to have a watercourse beyond the said land. And lest at any future time we should object to this grant, A.D. 1278, in the presence of the venerable master Henry de Cumbe, then Official of the Archdeacon of Taunton, in full chapter at Wemedon "*corporale præstitimus sacramentum.*" Witnesses: John Mauger, Thomas Crek, &c.

Although his name does not occur in the Visitation Pedigree, Walter was probably a link in the descent of twenty generations between Philip Mansel, son of Philip Arbalistarius, *temp.* Hen. II, and Richard *temp.* Charles I. when the property was sold.

113. In a charter of Robert de Scorham concerning a gift of lands in North-Pederton to the church of Athelney; the witnesses are Sir Hugh Tryvet of Spaxton, Sir Thomas Tryvet, knights.

114. Know all present and to come that I, Robert de Weston, chaplain of the B. Mary of North-Pederton, have given to Sybil, daughter and heir of Peter Toky, three messuages four and one half acres of land thirty-three acres of meadow in North-Pederton which I had of the gift of the said Peter in trust for the said Sybil and her heirs. And if it should happen that the said Sybil should die without legitimate children. Then the first messuage is to remain to Roger Sydenham and his heirs for ever with an annual payment to the Abbey of Athelney of

fourteen shillings ; and the second shall remain to Robert, son of Thomas Porter of Fokerton ; and the third messuage shall remain to Richard Wely and Christina his wife, with a yearly payment to the chaplain of the chantry of the B. Mary of North-Pederton of fourteen shillings. Witnesses: Robert Maunsel, Walter att Wall, John Cherleton, John Selwode, Peter Blake, and others, 30 Edw. III (1356).

115. An agreement made between Robert, the abbot of Athelney, and Ralph de Middleney, knight, concerning lands in Lenge (no details). Witnesses: John Erleghe, John Tryvet, knights; Henry Redmor, John Payn, Roger Sydenham, 28 Edw. III (1354).

For Ralph de Middleney see notes in Muchelney cartulary.

116. Release by John Barry to Robert Hache, abbot of Athelney, of all his right in certain lands in the parish of Lenge. Witnesses: John Payn, Nicholas Bolour, Nicholas Britt, 5 Ric. II (1381–2).

117. I, Ralph de Alra, have conceded a gift which my father Raer made to God and the church of Athelney, of a messuage which Godric Papylun held. Witnesses: Odo de Wandestre, Simon de le Slo, Raer the parson of Alre (Aller).

Raer of Alra, witness to a charter of Bishop Robert of 1166. Raer parson of Alre, witness to a charter of Bishop Savaric, 1192–1205.

118. Final concord between John de Alra and Agnes his wife and Roger, abbot of Athelney, concerning rights of common on Saltmore, 26 Hen. III.

Given in full in Pedes Finium, 26 Hen. III, 39; S.R.S. vi, 108.

119. This indenture made 7 Ric. II (1383–4) between the abbot and convent of Athelneye, and Sir John Beauchamp of Lillesdon, Matthew de Clyvedon and Elias Spelly concerning rights of common in Saltmore in their manor of Stathe, of which manor Sir John Dynham was chief lord.

120. Licence of alienation from Sir John Dynham the chief lord of Saltmore.

To all Christian people, Sir John Dynham cousin and an heir of John de Meulis knight, deceased, sends greeting. Whereas Sir John de Beauchamp, Matthew de Clyvedon, and Elias Spelly hold of me the manor of Stathe in Somerset as part of the inheritance of the said John de Meulis which has fallen to my share; in which manor is a certain moor for pasture called Saltmore containing more than one thousand acres of pasture which is held of me as parcel of the said manor by the three parties mentioned above without partition; in which moor the abbot and convent of Athelney from time immemorial have had common of pasture throughout for all manner of beasts to be fed and fattened at all times of the year as they think fit; on account of which rights of common my tenants cannot make use of the moor to the depreciation of the said manor, and loss to the said John de Beauchamp and his heirs, and to me and my heirs. And whereas I have been given to understand that the said John de Beauchamp, &c., would give to the Abbey about two hundred acres of pasture on the moor in exchange for the rights of common. Now know ye that I have given leave to the said John, &c., to give two hundred and twenty acres, be it more or less to the said Abbey to hold freely in pure and perpetual alms for ever. Witnesses: Giles Daubeny, John Streche, John Lorty knights; Peter Yevelton, Hugh Cancy, Roger Silveyn, John Delington. Given at Cricket-Malerbe the day &c., 6 Ric. II (1382–3).

Saltmoor lies north of Athelney in the angle between the Parret and the Tone. Sir John Meulis or Moels of North Cadbury, representative of the family of Newmarch, died 1338, leaving two daughters—Isabel, wife of William Botreaux; and Muriel, married to Sir Thomas de Courtenay, by whom she had two daughters, Margaret, wife of Thomas Peverell, and Muriel, wife of Sir John Dynham. The connexion of Newmarch with Saltmoor is brought out in No. 129.

121. Letters of attorney from Sir John Beauchamp of Lillesdon to his son Hugh to give seisin of 189 acres of moor and pasture in Saltmoor within the manor of Stathe to the abbot of Athelney, 7 Ric. II (1373–4).

122. Richard de Clvyedon, son and heir of Matthew de Clvyedon, gives his consent (to this arrangement). Witnesses: John de Beauchamp of Lillesdon, John Weylond, John Lorty knights; and others, 8 Ric. II (1374–5).

123. Release by Philip de Columbers of the suit of court of Stawey.

I, Philip de Columbers knight, lord of Nether Stowey, son of the lord John de Columbers, have released and quitclaimed to Robert the abbot and the convent of Athelney all the suit which they were accustomed to render to my court at Stawey for the lands which they hold of me at Tokerton. Dated at Nether-Staweye, 12 Edw. III (1328).

124. Grant by Philip de Columbers to Philip de Hokeburne for his homage and service of that messuage in the ville of Capite Montis formerly held by John Tilling, which lies next to the messuage which Ralph Kigun held. Witnesses: William de Columbers, Hugh Trivet and others.

Capite Montis is identified by Mr. Chadwyck-Healey with Downend in Puriton; see his note in Somerset Pleas, S.R.S. xi, p. 52. William de Columbers, younger brother of Philip II was living in the early part of Hen. III's reign.

125. Grant by Philip de Columbers to God and the church of Athelney of the rents and services due from Philip de Hokeburn for his messuage (as in 124) and for common of pasture in the manor of Piriton (Puriton) belonging to the said Philip. Witnesses: Richard abbot of Muchelney, the lord Richard de Wrotham, Master William de Spaxton, William de Horsey.

Philip de Columbers (II) died 1216.

126. Rents due from divers lands and holdings belonging to the monastery of Athelney.

From the land of North-Pederton 2sh. at two terms with homage reliefs and wards.

From land by the park of Pederton, 6sh., 8d.

Robert de Newton pays yearly 1 lb. pepper and 1 lb. of cummin for Privetesmore.

From the holdings at Tukerton, 5sh., 6d.

From the manor of Bosington, 30sh. with homage reliefs and wards.

From the lands of Adescumbe, 6sh. This rent belongs to the Monks' kitchen. And it is to be noted that Adescumbe is part of the free manor of Lenge.

From one holding in Alre, 5sh. yearly.
From Ferendon, 6sh. yearly.
From the mill at Esselega in Devon, 10sh. yearly.
From the holding in Capite Montis, 2sh., with homage, reliefs and wards. This rent belongs to the Infirmary.

127. Ranulph de Glanvill to Fulk Pannel, greeting.
I command you without delay to do right to the monks of Athelney in the matter of a pasture in Salt'(more) which they claim to hold of you in free alms of the gift of Robert de Banton, which you withhold. And unless you obey, the Sheriff of Somerset shall take such order that it shall not be necessary for them to complain again for want of justice [*pro defectu Recti*]. Witness: Osbert de Glanvill. By command of the King, at Winchester.

Ranulph de Glanville, the great Justiciar of Henry II. Fulk Pannel or Paganel was son of William Paganel and Julian, daughter of Walter de Bampton, son of Walter de Dowai, one of the magnates of the Somerset Domesday. By the wording and probable date of the charter on p. 39 of the Bath Cartulary, it would appear that Robert of Banton was another son of Walter of Dowai with property in Castle Cary and Bridgewater.

128. Charter of Henry II concerning lands and tenements in Corilade.
Henry king of England, duke of Normandy and Acquitaine, count of Anjou. Know that I have given to the abbot and my monks of Athelyngeia Gilbert de Corilade my man with all his land and service, for which gift they are to pay to the sheriff 7sh. 6d. which Gilbert used to pay. And they are never to demand any more or to lay upon him any greater service. And this I have given in alms for the love of God and for the souls of king Henry my grandfather and of all my antecessors. Witnesses: T. Chancellor, Robert de Novoburgo, and Richard de Raddone then sheriff of Somerset, at Chedre.

Thomas Becket resigned the chancellorship 1162. Richard de Raddon was sheriff 1155-1159, within which period this charter falls.

129. Charter of King Henry II, to Geoffrey de Wandestre.
Henry D. G., &c., to all &c., greeting. Know ye that I have conceded and given and by this charter confirmed to Geoffrey de Wandestre seven librates of land in my manor of North-Cory, in exchange for his land at Witham and Wandstre, which

I have given to the brothers of the Charterhouse, to be held of Henry de Newmarch, and his heirs by that service by which he held his said land at Whiteham and Wandestre; viz. "statum" (*i.e.* Stathe) a part of the said manor for 56*s.* 7¼*d.*, with three groves (*brollium*) and pasture to it adjoining. And Robert Wider with his land for 5*s.* 7¼*d.*; and Nicholas with his land for 12*d.*; and Agemund Pig with his land for 15*d.*; and from the abbot of Athelney 7*s.* 6*d.* yearly which he used to pay to me for the land of Corylode. And in the fishery of Morcock Eswere yearly 5,000 eels; and in the fishery of Stathewere 1,000 eels; and he shall have these 6,000 eels for 20*s.* And in my demesne of Cory four virgates of land for 28*s.* And Saltmore for 20*s.* And in these lands enumerated above the amount of seven librates of land is made up to him. Therefore I will that the said Geoffrey, and his heirs after him shall hold these lands well and freely in all ways. Witnesses: Richard bishop of Winchester, Geoffrey bishop of Ely, Selerius (Sigefrid) bishop of Chichester, Geoffrey the chancellor my son, master Walter de Constantia archdeacon of Oxford.

This charter should be read with the similar grant to Gilbert of Norfolk given in Wells Cathedral MSS., p. 162. Now that I have had an opportunity of reading the royal grant in the original, it seems very doubtful if the tenants named in the two charters were the exiled inhabitants of Witham and Wandstrow. The wording, etc., would make them the king's tenants at North-Curry. This conclusion does not, however, affect the fact of the depopulation of Witham, as twenty-five librates of land connotes a large resident population. (*S. and D. N. and Q.*, v. 205.) The date of the charter is 1180–1.

130. Release by Robert de Wandstre with the assent of his wife Alice and his heirs to the abbot and monks of Athelneye, of the rent of 7*s.* and 6*d.*, which they used to pay for the land at Corilade, rendering nothing in return beyond their prayers. Because if we shall not have made an exchange, we will make an equivalent from our land "de la Burga." Witnesses: the lord Robert de Stanton, master William de Spaxton. (Early thirteenth century.)

131. Know all men present and to come that I Gilbert de Norfolk, by divine inspiration, and for the soul of my lord William Malet, and my own and that of my wife and of all my ancestors and successors have given to God and the

monastery of S. Saviour and S. Peter and the holy Athelwin of Athelingenye and the monks then serving God, Robert Vele of Huntham, my rustic with half a virgate of land and five acres, and common in the moor, and all his holding in pure and perpetual alms. And it shall be lawful for them to have from the said Robert, either personal services or a money rent (*operationem vel denarios*) whichever they prefer because such was the condition of Robert Vele and his holding at Huntham, when the King gave him to me together with another holding which I have in Cory in exchange for my land at Witteham, which he gave to the brothers of the Charterhouse. And so I will and confirm it by my charter and seal, my lord Gilbert Malet for himself and his heirs allowing and confirming it by his seal, of whose fee and hold the said land, that they may have the holding and the rustic free from all secular service for ever. Witnesses: Adelard presbyter, William son of Gilbert Malet, and others.

Huntham is between Stoke S. Gregory and North Curry. The overlordship of the Malet family came from Roger de Corcelle, who *temp.* Domesday held two hides in Witeham "ablata" from Brewham. The date of the charter is after 1180; Robert Vela is mentioned in the royal grant to Gilbert de Norfolk.

132. Ratification of the above gift by William de Norfolk, son of Roger son of Geoffrey, and nephew of Gilbert the donor. Witnesses: Geoffrey the chaplain of North-Cory, Robert the chaplain of Stoke (S. Gregory).

Charter of Roger de Mandaville.

133. To the venerable Robert Bishop of Bath and to all his successors, and to all sons of holy church clerical and lay, Roger de Mandaville sends greeting. Let it be known unto all that I have conceded the island which is called Andresia with the fishery and all else belonging to it, to the church of S. Peter and S. Athelwin of Athelingneye, and the brethren then dwelling as God's family, in perpetual alms free and quit from all earthly service, for the soul of my father, and for the salvation of my life, and that of my parents, as well as for the love of God, and at the entreaty and prayer of Herduin the venerable hermit to whom a long time ago I gave the said island. And this gift I have

confirmed by the opposition of my seal that it may remain unaltered for ever. Witnesses: Hugh abbot of Muchelneye, Hurbert Pin, and others.

As the date of this charter must be before 1166, the year of bishop Robert's death, the donor would be Roger de Mandeville III, who succeeded his father Stephen about 1147 (*Historical Notes on South Somerset*, p. 114, and chart pedigree). Wulfric, the hermit, of Haselbury Plucknett, is now no longer the sole representative of the solitary life in the county at this period. There is an "Andersey" on the north bank of the Parrett, not far off at this day.

134. Grant by Gilbert de Helleworthy to God and the church of S. Athelwin at Athelynganye, for the safety of the souls of King Henry, son of the Empress Matilda, and King Henry senior his grandfather, and King Henry III, that now is, and for the relief of my soul and my parents, of three fisheries in the water which is called Tian, which are called by these names Estwere, Merewere, and the third which Ianswine held with all their belongings on the land and in the water. And in additon 30 sticks of eels from the fishery which is called Hengestewere; saving the right of tithe of the mother church of North Cory, and all the rights of the King. Witnesses: Thomas the archdeacon, Stephen the prior of Taunton.

Henry III, junior, was king 1170–1183. Thomas the archdeacon may be Thomas Agnellus, archdeacon of Wells, who preached the young king's funeral sermon. (*Early History of Wells*, by C. M. Church, p. 62.) Thomas de Erleigh was archdeacon of Bath, 1174. Tian is the river Tone.

135. Composition between the Monastery of Athelneye, and the Chapter of Wells.

A.D. 1263, an agreement was made between Edward the Dean and the Chapter, and Robert the abbot and the Convent, about the matters in dispute between them, secular and spiritual, in this manner.

The abbot and Convent have conceded to the Dean and Chapter, and their men in Corylode, and of Hunteham, all the common of pasture, of all kinds which they had or ought to have at all times in their meadows, closes, enclosures in the manor of North-Cory in Corymoremede, Leverymede, &c. And in return the Dean and Chapter have conceded to the Abbey, one meadow enclosed with a ditch in Cury, which is called Hockmede, for the increase of their manor of Lenge, with the lord's rights over the said meadow.

136. A.D. 1311, 5 Edw. II, John dean of Wells and Osmund abbot of Athelneye. Witnesses: John de Beauchamp, Henry de Urtiaco, John de Erleghe, Gilbert de Bere, Hugh de Popham, knights; Nicholas de Meles, Philip de Columbers, and others. (No details.)

137. Licence from Edward King of England, in the 4th year of his reign, to the Dean and Chapter of Wells, that in spite of the statute of Mortmain, they may be able to give 100 acres of moor in North-Cory to the Abbey of Athelney, to be held for the common of pasture in perpetuity, which the said Abbey have in 800 acres of moor, in the same ville belonging to the Dean and Chapter.

Although there is no reference to the king as being the second of that name, it is very probable that 136 is the formal deed consequent on 137.

138. Charter of King Stephen concerning a watercourse through the moor.

Stephen King of England, &c., to the Archbishops, &c. Know ye that I have conceded and confirmed in perpetual alms to the monks of Athelneye, that passage and watercourse which they have made through the middle of the moor below their church on the south side to alter (*ad commutandum*), the old road for passengers by their ground. Therefore I will and order that the monks may have the said watercourse peaceably, quietly and freely for ever. Witnesses: Henry bishop of Winchester, Earl Hugh Bigot, Richard de Lucy, Warin de Lusor', at London.

139. Confirmation of the above Charter by Henry II.

In the same words except that the alteration of the road has been made "for those who wish to go by their ground that in their passage they shall not hurt either their gardens or coppices." Witnesses: Richard de Humet, constable, Warin son of Gerald, chancellor, Manasser Bigot, steward, at Winchester.

140. Agreement between the Dean and Chapter of Wells and the Abbot and Convent of Athelney.

This indenture made 9 June 1394, 17 Ric. II, between the noble men Thomas de Sudbury Dean and the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of S. Andrew at Wells on the one part, and

the religious men John abbot of Athelney and the convent of that place on the other part Witnesseth that whereas very many lawsuits, controversies and contentions between the said parties have arisen, and for a long time have remained undecided: Now by the efforts of the noble and energetic men Sir Peter Courtney knight and other worshipful men mutual friends, they have agreed on the following terms which now follow in this form and mode. Witnesses: Peter Courtney, John Lorty, Robert Yevilton, knights; John Ficelton, and others. Given at North-Cory.

The terms are not given; it was only a truce, and a fresh treaty of peace was made in 1427, No. 239.

141. Charter of King Stephen concerning Free warren in Lenge and Hamme.

Stephen King of England &c. to the Bishop of Bath, the Justices Barons Sheriff and his officers in Somerset greeting. I allow the abbot of Athelney to have warren in his land of Lenge and Hamme. And I forbid anyone to hunt there except by his leave, under forfeiture of ten pounds. Witnesses: R. chancellor, R. de Fisc., at London.

142. Confirmation of the above Charter.

Henry (IV) D.G. King of England and France and lord of Ireland &c. We have inspected the charter of Stephen, formerly King of England made in these words: Stephen King of England (as above). Now we holding the said liberty valid and acceptable, do accept and approve it for ourselves and our heirs as far as in us lies, and do concede to our beloved in Christ the Abbot and Convent of the said place, and his successors by the tenor of these presents and do confirm as the said charter reasonably witnesses that the said Abbot and Convent ought to have warren as their predecessors had from the date of the making of the charter down to the present time. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness ourself at Westminster, 7 Nov., the seventh year of our reign (1405).

143. Edward Duke of York, Earl of Cambridge Rutland and Cork, and chief forester of the royal forests this side of Trent, to the keeper of the Forest and Park of Pederton, or to whoever may be holding his place, greeting. We have inspected

a mandate of the King in these words: Henry [*ut supra*]. We have also inspected a charter of King Stephen [*ut supra*]. We therefore command you to allow the said abbot and convent to have warren in their land of Lenge and Hamme according to the confirmation of the said charter. Given at Welles 22 June, 10 Hen. IV (1409).

144. Henry (II), King of England, and Duke of Normandy and Acquitaine to his Justices, Sheriffs and ministers in Somerset, greeting. I will and firmly order that the church and monks of Athelneye may well peaceably freely justly and honourably hold all their lands and holdings which have been reasonably given to them by our ancestors even as they held them better more freely and quietly in the time of my grandfather King Henry and on the day when he was alive and died; Nor for any part of them shall they be unjustly brought to plea unless I command. And of the lands which their neighbours have taken from them unjustly and without the consent of the convent, so that they have no charter nor any confirmation by the said church, they shall without delay be reseised nor are ye to allow anyone to do injury or damage to them or their lands, because they with all their belongings are in my custody and protection. Witness: Henry de Essex constable, at Winchester.

Charter of the King concerning toll.

145. Edward D.G. King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Acquitaine to the Archbishops, &c. We have inspected a charter which Henry of renowned memory formerly King of England our progenitor made for the abbot and monks of Athelney in these words: Henry King of England and Duke of Normandy and Acquitaine to all &c. I command that the horses and men and all things belonging to the abbot and monastery of Athelney which his men can affirm to be their own, are to be free of all toll, passage and porterage, and custom through all my land. And I prohibit that anyone should vex or disturb them under a penalty of ten pounds. Witnesses: Richard de Humet constable and Warin son of Gerard chancellor, at Winchester. We therefore holding the aforesaid discharge to be reasonable and agreeable, do concede and

confirm it for ourselves and our heirs as far as lies in our power, as the said charter in reasonable terms shows. Witnesses: Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, Adomar de Valence, John de Brittany junior, and others.

146. Edward (I) D.G. King of England &c., to the bailiffs of Margaret late the wife of Edmund Mortimer and William lazusche of Brugges-Walter, greeting. Whereas it has been shown to us on behalf of the abbot of Athelney that he and his men by virtue of a certain charter [*ut supra* No. 145] which we have confirmed are to be quit of toll throughout our land; Nevertheless you when the men come with their goods to the said town levy a grievous toll and disquiet them on the occasion several times over to the no small damage of the men themselves and to the manifest harm and prejudice of the said abbot and in contradiction to our confirmation. And because we are unwilling that any injury should be done to the abbot or his men, we command you that henceforth you desist from levying those tolls and from disquieting the men without any right, that you permit them to enter the town as they have been accustomed, and that without delay you release any distraint which you may have made in this matter.

Charter of King Henry (III) for a market at Lenge and a Fair at Sutton.

147. Henry D.G. King of England Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Acquitaine, to the Archbishops &c. Know ye that we have conceded and by our present charter have confirmed to our beloved in Christ the Abbot and Convent of Athelney that they and their successors may have in perpetuity a market on Monday in their manor of Lenge in the county of Somerset; and a yearly Fair to last for three days, viz., the eve day and morrow of S. James the Apostle (25 July) at their manor of Sutton in the same county, unless it should appear that the said market and fair should be harmful to other markets and fairs in the neighbourhood. And we will and firmly command that the abbot and convent may have the said market and fair with all liberties and free customs belonging to them. Witnesses: Philip Basset, Robert Walerand, Robert Aguilun, Walter de

Merton, and others. Given under our hand at Clarendon, 10 Sept. in the fifty-second year of our reign (1268).

COMMAND OF THE KING CONCERNING THE TENURE OF THE LAND ON CANTOK.

148. Henry (II) King of England &c. to my sheriff in Somerset greeting. I command that the Church of Athelyngie hold the land on Cantok peaceably, justly and freely by the same tax (*census*) which two rustics used formerly to pay for this land which they held in the time of King Henry my grandfather. And that they have all the cattle which were upon the land peaceably, justly and quietly. Which unless you do my justice shall cause to be done. Witness: Henry de Essex, constable, at Winchester.

CHARTER OF JOHN ERLEGHE CONCERNING THE LAND IN CANTOK.

149. Know all present and to come that I John de Erlega for the fear and love of God and also for the remission of my sins and those of Atheliza my wife, do give and concede in perpetuity to God and S. Peter and the blessed Athelwin and to the monks of the church of Athelingneye the land in Cantoc which belonged to Godalhoverd and Osbert and twenty acres in the same Cantoc, free and quit from all exactions disturbances and complaints except those which belong to God which may lawfully and canonically be demanded. I first made this donation at Tanton where Benedict the abbot and Drogo Arnold and Ralph monks of the aforesaid church were present. There were also present Hugh the archdeacon and Richard the priest of Crich and much laity. And afterwards I confirmed this my gift in the church of Athelney on the solemn day of S. Athelwin by offering it upon the altar, there being many spectators, where more bystanders bore witness, and gave thanks to God.

In Doomsday there is a small manor called Cantoca, owned by Alured de Hispania. It was probably Quantock in Crowcombe, and the Abbey do not seem to have possessed any property there. The fact that the donor was John de Erleigh suggests that it was a place in North Petherton. The donor was the first of his name in the county. He died between 1161 and

1165, in which year Adela his wife paid scutage on his lands (Coll. II, 198, citing Pipe Rolls). The archdeacon was Hugh de Tournai, who was archdeacon of Bath 1136.

CHARTER OF THOMAS CLAVYLE CONCERNING A TENEMENT IN CLAVELSHEGH.

150. Know all present and to come that I, Thomas, son of Thomas de Clavile have given &c. to Andrew the lord abbot and the Convent of Athelney all the holding and land with all things everywhere belonging to it which Richard Gerard held of me in Nether-Clavelshegh together with the rents and services due from Richard de Newton, Roger de Ferndon, Adam de Clavelshegh, William de Clavelshegh, and Thurstan de Clavelshegh for the lands which they held of me in Nether Clavelshegh and Over Clavelshegh, with their homage and fealty ; and also the reliefs right of marriage, escheats and all other incidents which might have come to me from the said lands. Witnesses : Richard de Plessetis, Matthew de Fornellis, Adam de Bagedripe, knights ; John de Marisco, and others.

Andrew of Wells (De Sacre Fonte) was abbot 1280–1300; the gift is mentioned in the Taxatio of Pope Nicholas IV, 1290, so the date of the charter lies within 1280–90. Clavelshegh is in the extreme south-west part of North Petherton parish ; it gave name to a family who appear in the Heralds' Visitation of 1573.

151. In another charter of Thomas de Clavyle to the Abbot and Convent of Athelney of lands in Nether-Claveleshegh ; the witnesses are: Henry de Erleghe, John de Aure, T. Tryvet, knights ; Hugh de Luf. (Henry de Erleghe died about 1272.)

152. Alice wife of Thomas de Clavyle quitclaims to Andrew the abbot and the Convent of Athelney her right in the lands of Thomas her son or of Thomas her son in Over and Nether Clavelesheghe. Witnesses: Richard de Plessetis, Matthew de Fornellis, knights ; John de Marisco. (Of even date with 150.)

153. Roger de Ferendon son of Gilbert de Ferendon gives lands in Nether-Claveleshegh to the Abbot Andrew and Convent of Athelney, which lands he had of the gift of Thomas son of

Thomas de Clavyle. Witnesses: Richard de Plessetis, William Tryvet, knights; Walter de Cheselade, William Tostard, and others.

154. I, Thomas de Clavyle son of Henry de Clavyle, have confirmed to God and the Abbot of Athelyngenye, one croft of land which is between the land of the said abbot and the land of the Sisters of Buckland at Ferendon. Witnesses: Thomas de Regny, T. Tryvet, knights; Robert de Newton, and others.

Ferendon, now Farrington, lies southward of North Petherton. For the Sisters of Buckland, see Mynchin Buckland Priory, by Rev. T. Hugo, *Proc. S. A. and N. H. Soc.* X, ii, 1.

155. Clavelshegh was in the Hundred of North Pederton, as appears in a charter of Nicholas son of Thomas de Clavelesheg. Witnesses: Matthew de Clyvedon, Matthew Mychel, John Payn, and others. Given at North Pederton, 38 Ed. III (1364).

156. Henry Hache of North Cory, 38 Ed. III (1364).

157. I, John de Erleghe lord of Durston, 36 Ed. III (1362).

Four years later, he attended the Black Prince into Spain, and having been taken prisoner, was forced to sell the best part of his ancient inheritance to make up his ransom; Coll. II, 199.

158. By a deed Richard Clavelesheghe gives lands in C. in the parish of North-Pederton. Witnesses: Matthew de Clyvedon, John Payn, John Fidelton, Richard Mareys, Robert Halswell, 45 Ed. III (1371).

159. Thomas Baymede of Clavelsheghe, 45 Ed. III (1371).

160. William de Erleghe, chamberlain to the King, to all his men and friends both French and English present and to come, greeting. Know ye that I have given and conceded to Gilbert de Claville the land at Ferenton which John de Erlegh my father gave to him to be held rightly freely and quietly by all service &c. for two gilt spurs to be rendered every year. Further I have given to him a meadow at Chadesmede with rights of common for the same service, to be held of me and my

heirs for ever. Witnesses: Thomas the archdeacon, Gocelin and William priests.

William de Erlegh succeeded his father John in 1165. In the Liber Ruber I, 235, containing the Knights' Fees held in 1166, he returns that he holds one fee in Somerset by the service of being the King's chamberlain. This was probably that part of Babcary which belonged to this family, and *temp.* Doomsday was held by Humphrey the Chamberlain. William de Erlegh died before 1195, when scutage was paid by John de Erlegh. Thomas the archdeacon (first of Bath and afterwards of Wells) was de Erlegh, so some relation.

161. Roger Clavyle son and heir of Thomas Clavyle gives lands in Farnton in the parish of North-Pederton, 20 Ed. II (1326–7).

162. I, Robert atte Ledeyete, chaplain, have given &c. to Roger Clavyle and Margaret de Acton his wife all my holding in Farnton in the Hundred of Nord-Pederton, which I had of the gift and feeffment of the said Roger. Witnesses: Hugh de Regny, Robert Ive, Walter atte-Wall, 20 Ed. II (1326–7).

163. I, John son of Thomas Clavyle, have conceded to Walter Clapton and Henry Hache the reversion to one messuage, three yards (*curtilagia*), 240 acres of land, and 30 acres of wood, with rights of common in Northmore, which ought to come to me by hereditary right after the death of Margaret late the wife of Roger Clavyle my brother, situated in Ferenton in the Hundred of North-Pederton. Witnesses: Simon de Bradeney, Matthew Michel, John de Horsey, and others, 37 Ed. III (1363).

164. I, John de Erleghe lord of Durston, have remitted and released to Robert the abbot of Athelney and the Convent all my right to six pennies which Roger Clavyle used to pay me yearly for his holding in Farendon in the Hundred of North-Pederton, as well as to a pair of nun's boots (*boutis monialibus*) which the said abbot and Convent used to render to me yearly. Given at Durston, 41 Ed. III (1367).

The render of a pair of nun's boots (*monachales, moniales*) was arranged under the agreement (No. 99) made between John de Erlegh and abbot Benedict in 1213. They may have been intended for a present to the sisters of Mynchin Buckland in the parish of Durston. The donor of 164 was the last male of the family.

165. Let all men know that I, Robert Clavyle, have released &c., to John the abbot of Athelneye and his successors all my right and claim to the messuages lands meadows woods moors pastures and rents with all their belongings in Faryndon in the Hundred of North-Pederton which Margaret Clavyle formerly held. Witnesses: John Montagu, John Sparwe, Thomas Mylis, Richard Maunsel, John Taneswere, 3 Hen. IV (1401–2).

166. Somerset. Memorandum that in the 19th year of Richard II the venerable father T.(homas Arundel) Archbishop of York the Chancellor by his own hand delivered into court a certain Record in these words; Pleas in the presence of the king in his Chancery at Westminster in the quindene of Easter, 19 R. II. (1396); it was found by an inquisition held before John Perle lately the king's escheater in Somerset &c., that Robert Hache lately abbot of Athelney purchased of Walter de Clapton and Henry Hache a tenement in West Claveleshegh called Pecchys-Place, and a tenement in East Claveleshegh which Margaret Clavcles once held, with 200 acres of land for himself and his successors in the said abbacy for ever, without the royal licence; and further the abbot that now is appeared by his attorney Thomas Smyth in the chancery and said that a fine was levied in the octave of S. Hilary, 40 Ed. III (1366) between the abbot of Athelney querent, and Walter de Clapton and Henry Hache deforciants of two messuages and one carucate of land in North Pederton, when the said Walter and Henry recognised the said tenements to be the right of the said abbot and his church of Athelney, and they rendered one messuage and half the carucate to the said abbot in that court for ever. And further the said Walter and Henry conceded for themselves and the heirs of the said Henry that one messuage and the other half of the carucate which Margaret Clavell held for her life of the inheritance of the said Walter and Henry, which after the decease of the said Margaret would revert to the said Walter and Henry, should remain to the said abbot and convent. And after the death of the said Margaret, the abbot by virtue of the said fine entered upon the lands, having obtained the royal licence, as by the letters patent of the king's grandfather, dated 26 Jan. 40 Ed. III (1366) it well appears. And further

the record says that West Claveleshegh and East Claveleshegh are hamlets of the said ville of North Pederton.

At last after many altercations the Abbot and Convent of Athelney won.

167. I, Simon le Bret son of Simon le Bret, by the consideration of divine piety and for the souls of my father and mother, and of my grandfather Reyner Thurlac and my grandmother Margaret, and of my brother William le Bret, and for the salvation of my own soul and that of my wife, have given to God and the church of Athelneye all my land in la Hide, in pure and perpetual alms. Witnesses: William Gumer, Agnes my wife, Master Richard de Hinton, and others.

By the reference in No. 174, it appears that Hide is in the parish of West Monkton ; it is doubtless the farm of Hyde, situate between Bathpool and Ruishton. The donor was a younger son of Simon le Bret of Sandford Bret ; his brother William of Sandford is mentioned in Final Concords 1230–1250.

168. I, Cecilia le Bret daughter of Simon le Bret, by the consideration of divine piety and for the souls of my father and mother, my grandfather Reyner Thurlac and my grandmother Margaret, my brothers Simon and William le Bret, and for the salvation of my own soul have conceded to God and the church of Athelney the gift of Simon my brother (as in 167). Witnesses: John Prior of Tanton, Michael de Lavariis constable of Tanton, Thomas de Brente, and others.

John was prior of Taunton 1200–1225 or thereabouts.

169. Confirmation of above grant by John de Bykebiri son of John de Bykebiri and Cecilia le Bret. Witnesses: Roger de Staweia, Master William de Rede, Nigel nephew of the abbot.

170. Agreement made between Benedict the abbot of Athelneye and the heirs of Alice de la Hide, to wit, that Adam son of Ancelina daughter of the said Alice, Mary, Matilda, Cecilia and their heirs shall hold the land which is called la Hide with all its belongings of the abbot of Athelney.

Benedict was abbot 1198–1227.

171. I, Richard de la Hide son of Ralph de la Hide, have freely undertaken that I will keep harmless and defend and acquit against all men my lord Robert the abbot of Athelingenye and the convent of that place by reason that they have granted to me the land which belonged to Emma the daughter of Ancelina de la Hide. Witness: Thomas Trivet.

Robert was abbot 1245, and most probably down to 1267, when Richard de Derham was appointed.

172. In other charters of the same Richard de la Hide, the witnesses are: Thomas Trivet then seneschal of Athelingneye, Robert de Delington, Robert de Scorham.

173. Know all men that I, William de Monckton, have rendered unto the lord Richard the abbot and the convent of Athelyngneye, as their right, one penny of yearly rent which Thomas Lambryht used to pay to me for a tenement in la Hide near Monckton of the abbot of Glastonbury. Witnesses: Thomas Tryvet, Adam de Bagedripe, knights; Richard de Newton, 7 Ed. I (1279).

174. I, John Serle of the Hide in the parish of Monkton, have released, &c., to the abbot and convent of Athelneye, all the right which I had in the lands, rents, &c., at the Hyde. Witnesses: Henry Hache, Hugh Cancy, 7 Ric. II (1383–4).

175. I, Thomas Trowe son and heir of Johanna Trowe, daughter of William Chaundos have quitclaimed to John Brigge abbot of Athelneye all (my right to) lands in la Hyde within the manor of Monkton, 13 Hen. IV (1411–2).

Holeford.

176. I, Sabina formerly wife of Ralph de Bosco, have given &c. to William my son and heir, all my land in Holeford with the court (*curia*) and all belonging. Witnesses: John Britache, Richard de Wilecestre, knights; John de Cunde, Maurice de Lega, Robert Boyun.

Holeford is the parish of that name on the northern slope of Quantock, as it is called Holford St. Mary Magdalene in No. 183.

Nicholas de Bosco had a house at Halswell, 1243 (Ped. Fin., 27 Hen. III, 78), and another family of this name held South Cadbury for some time. The Britache family, though resident in the north part of the county, had possessions in the neighbourhood of Holeford; John Britache having granted lands in Heathfield to William Bozun, 1263 (Ped. Fin., 47 Hen. III, 48). In the same year, Richard de Wyrcestre is querent in a fine concerning lands in Norham (No. 61). The date of this charter is probably a little earlier than the next following.

177. I, William de Holeford son and heir of Sabina de Holeford, formerly wife of Richard de Bosco, have conceded and remitted to Thomas de Neuton and his heirs all my right in all my land of Holeford which I had of the gift of my mother Sabina in her lawful widowhood and power with a court &c. Witnesses: John Britashe, Ralph de Flory, John de la Lynde, William Fychet, knights. Given at Holeford 1257.

178. I, Thomas de Newton, rector of the church of Lydiard S. Laurence, have given to the abbot and convent of Athelneye all my land in Holeford. Witnesses: Simon de Gryndeham, Baldwin Malet, knights; Simon de Craucombe, and others.

179. I, Hugh de la Yerde, do ratify and confirm for me and my heirs the gift and concession which Master Thomas formerly rector of Lydiard St. Laurence made to the abbot and convent of Athelney of all his holding with the houses, court-yards, lands &c., in the ville of Holeford; which said holding formerly belonged to Adam de Holeford. Witnesses: T. Trivet, Baldwin Malet, Simon de Meryet, knights.

In the history of the Meryet family by the late Mr. Greenfield (Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. S. Proc., 28, ii, 99), the exact relationship of Sir Simon to the family living at Merriott is left doubtful, though he used the same arms with a bend ermine for a difference. Simon died some time after 1276, and his son John established himself at Hestercombe, near Taunton.

180. I, Hugh de Bosco son and heir of William de Bosco, have given to the abbot and monks of Athelyngneye, in perpetual alms, four pennies of yearly rent from my messuages in Holeford-Hugonis, formerly belonging to Jordan de Holeford. Witnesses: Thomas Trivet, Baldwin Malet, knights; John de Cundy, and others.

181. In a charter of John de la Yerde to the lord Andrew abbot of Athelneye concerning lands in Holeford, A.D. 1298; the witnesses are: Robert Fitzpayn, Geoffrey de Wroxhale, John de Erleghe, knights.

182. I, Alma de Wetstow, lately the wife of Richard de Portbury in my lawful widowhood have given for ever to the lord Andrew abbot of Athelneye, all the land which I had in Holeford, of which two acres "jacent in latitudine inter" the land which was once Robert Avenant's &c. Witnesses: John de Erleghe, Matthew de Furneaus, Hugh de Popham, knights; William Fychet, &c.

183. Let all know that whereas a controversy has lately arisen between Richard Godwyn and Matilda his wife petitioners, and the abbot of Athelney and the convent tenants concerning six acres of land &c. in Holeford S. Mary Magdalene, so that a suit was began by writ of the King Edward son of King Edward (II), in the eighth and ninth years of his reign (1315–6), they claiming the said six acres to be the right of the said Matilda by reason of a gift made by Thomas parson of the church of Lidyard S. Laurence, who gave the six acres to Richard de Portbury in free marriage with Alma, cousin (*consanguinea*) of the said Thomas, which six acres ought to descend to Matilda daughter and heiress of Richard and Matilda by reason of the said gift. At length peace was re-made between the parties. Witnesses: John Meryet, Hugh de Popham, knights; John de Membury, 9 Edw. II (1315–6).

184. I, Thomas de Holeford son and heir of the late Thomas of Tokar-Newton, &c. Witness: the lord Richard Fitzpayn.

185. I, John de Virga son and heir of Hugh de Virga, have conceded &c., to the lord Osmund abbot and the convent of Athelneye all my right and claim to two messuages which formerly belonged to Thomas de Nyweton in Holeford-Hugonis. Witnesses: John de Meryeth de Hestercombe, knight; Walter de Meryeth, Gregory de Welyngton, and others. Given in the fifth year of King Edward son of King Edward (1311–2).

185A. I, John Atte Yerde son and heir of John Atte Yerde, have quitclaimed to the lord Richard de Gothurste abbot of Athelney, a yearly rent in Holeford. Witnesses: Richard Dacton, Thomas Fichet, knights; Matthew Michel.

Richard de Gothurst was abbot 1341–1349.

BAGGEBURGH.

186. I, Simon Buzun, have conceded and confirmed to God, and the church of Athelneye, in pure and perpetual alms for the salvation of my soul, one ferling of land to wit 12 acres of my demesne of La Breche in the ville of Bageberge, which Robert Bozun my father gave to them by his will voluntarily and with my assent. Witnesses: Simon son of Roger, Hugh de Gant, William de Ponte, and others.

187. Benedict by the grace of God abbot of the church of Athelyngneye to all the sons of Holy Mother Church greeting in Christ. We have brought by the display of writings to the notice of many, and by deliberate foresight have ordered that the present age and the succession of future (ages) may know That by the condition of this account following Talebot de Etfeld has made with me and the church of our convent a fine of the land of Bosington that he may hold it of our church in fee by rent (*gablum*) viz. that he shall pay every year at two terms for the said land thirty shillings, and this without troubling us or our servants. And if it shall at any time happen (may it not occur) that he shall be rebellious to our Church and ourselves in regard to this payment, it is decreed that one shall take a distress by the hand of our servants. On whom if he shall presume to obstruct by violence a sentence of anathema shall be knit fast (*innodebitur*) in our church without delay, until he shall render condign satisfaction in our chapter. He shall also pay the Danegeld as far as is due from the land whenever it shall be generally levied. By a reasonable summons he shall come without deceit to our assistance against our enemies, as he is bound to our church and convent by homage and oath and fealty with such touching of the most holy Gospel as we have been better able to settle. In the presence of our venerable father and shepherd Robert, by divine grace, Bishop of Bath, this matter has been drawn up and settled

with great and diligent display of wisdom. For a testimony and confirmation of the matter the seal of our lord Bishop hangs from this charter which under the distinctive title of a cirograph we have divided. At this agreement were present: Hugh the archdeacon, Eustace the archdeacon, Master Martin the archdeacon, and many more whom it would take long to enumerate, at Lidyard.

Bossington is in the parish of Porlock. In Doomsday, it is held by Ralph de Limesei, who had received it from the King. It gelded for one hide. These three archdeacons are named in a charter of the first year of Bishop Robert's episcopate, 1136, and again in a charter of Bruton Abbey in 1146. The date of this charter is most probably not much later than this last year. Abbot Benedict was the first of that name. Talebot de Hathfelde held two knights' fees of William de Mohun in 1166. The abbey seem to have been rather nervous about accepting him for a tenant.

PURSE-CANDEL.

188. CHARTER OF NICHOLAS CANDEL.

Know all present and to come that I, Nicholas de Candel, for the salvation of my soul, have given to God and the church of Athelney in pure and perpetual alms, two shillings of annual rent, which I used to receive from Ralph de Cerne for two hides of land in Purs-Candel at the feast of S. Michael. Witnesses: Robert de Columbers, Robert de London, Simon Warner, Walter Bretun.

Purse Caundle is an inset of Dorset between Henstridge and Milborne Port. The manor had been taken in exchange for Montacute, which the Count of Moretaine desired, previous to Doomsday.

189. I, Ralph de Cerne, have given and conceded to God and the church of Athelyngneye all my land in Purs-Candel which Nicholas Candel gave and sold to me, being part of the fee of the said abbey. Witnesses: the lord Robert de Blakeforde, Robert de London.

190. I, Walter Briton of Shireburne, have released and quitclaimed to the Abbot of Athelney all my land in Purs-Cande, which Nicholas Candel gave and sold to me.

191. I, Robert de Columbers, have remitted and quit-claimed to the Abbot and Convent of Athelyngneye all the right which Nicholas Candel gave and sold to me in that ville. Witnesses: Thomas Trivet, knight; Henry de Haddon, Henry de Salice, and others.

192. I, John Baret, brother of Ralph formerly parson of Purs-Candel, have given to the Abbot and Convent of Athelneye all my right to the land in Purs-Candel which came to me by hereditary right from my brother Ralph, of the fee of Nicholas Candel. Witnesses: the lord Robert de Londres, knight; Henry Haddon.

193. In the 21st year of King Edward (I, 1293) an agreement was made between Roger Aleyn of Purs-Candel and Andrew the Abbot of Athelneye concerning lands in Purs-Candel. Witnesses: Walter de Loveny, Matthew de Fourneaux, knights; John de Haddon, Henry Baret.

Andrew de Wells, 1280–1300. For Loveny, see notes on Muchelney cartulary.

194. Nicholas Hachard gives lands in Purs-Caundel to the Abbey of Athelney. Witnesses: John de Haddon, Thomas Bruneshull.

195. Stephen Cnappedeshall gives lands in Purs-Candel to the Abbey of Athelneye.

196. A.D. 1273, there was an agreement between the Abbey of Athelney and William called Young (Juvenis) concerning lands in Purs-Candel. Witnesses: Henry de Haddon and others. N.B.—There are several other charters of this William not transcribed.

197. Writing concerning the custody of the heir of Hugh de Candel.

I, brother William, by divine permission the humble minister of the church of Burton, have received from my beloved friends Benedict the lord abbot of Athelney and the convent the custody of the land and heirs of Hugh de Candel my brother, together with the mother of the said heirs to have and to hold for eighteen years following from the feast of S. Andrew in the

fifth year of the reign of King John (30 Nov. 1203). So that I shall answer in good faith to the abbot and monks of Athelingneye for the services due to them as is contained in the charter of the heirs. This same (service) he shall render whoever may hold the said custody of me during the period. And that the Abbot and convent may have full security, and that I may not employ art or evil ingenuity in holding to myself or to anyone for me the said custody beyond the said term against their will, I have caused this present testimony to be written and have strengthened it with the protection of my seal. Witnesses: Richard the abbot of Muchelney, Master John de Cammel, and others.

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198. I, John de Loheryng, son and heir of Geoffrey de Lohereng, have given to God and the Church of Athelyngneye and the monks there all my land of la Wodeland and a wood with all belonging thereto in Parva Toritone, as the charter of my father sets forth which he had of Maurice de London, in pure and perpetual alms for my soul and my body. Witnesses: Richard abbot of Muchelney, Ralph de Alre, Oliver Avenel.

From the reference in No. 200, this gift seems to have lain in Devonshire. It does not appear in any of the lists of property belonging to the Abbey. The names of the first two witnesses show that the date is early thirteenth century.

199. I, Richard de Crues, have conceded and confirmed for me and my heirs one ferling of land with all belonging in la Wodeland near Parva Toritone to the abbot and monks of Athelyngneye, as the charter of John de Lohereng son and heir of Geoffrey de Lohereng my uncle better and more fully sets forth. Witnesses: the lord Henry de Tracy, Roger de Langford.

200. I, Richard de Crues, have quitclaimed to Roger the abbot of Athelney and the Convent for me and my heirs for ever, Robert Semere of la Wodelande with all his following (*sequela*) whom I claimed as my serf (*nativus*) by the King's writ in the County (court) of Devon, in return for two marcs and one half which the said Abbot and Convent have given to me.

Roger elected abbot in 1227, living in 1241.

201. I, Geoffrey de la Wodeland, with the assent of Claricia my wife, have quitclaimed to Robert, the lord abbot of Athelney for ever, and further, have abjured (all right to) the land of la Wodeland with the wood, &c. Witnesses: Henry de Erleghe, knight, Robert Scorham.

Abbot Robert was most likely successor to Roger of 200.

202. Roger, abbot of Athelney. 13 Hen. III (1229).

Is this the date of the King's writ mentioned in 200?

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203. I, Eva de Soweye, formerly wife of Thomas de Berches, in my chaste, perpetual and lawful widowhood, with the assent and consent of my heirs, have given to God and the church of Athelyngneye and the monks there, two shillings of yearly rent in the village of Middle-Sowey for the salvation of my soul and those of my father and my mother and of Thomas, my husband. Witnesses: Thomas Trivet, knight; Master William de Bruges, Master John de Cadbury.

The grandchildren of Eva de Sowey were disputing about their inheritance in 1263, v. Ped. Fin., 47 Hen. III, 36.

204. I, William Husee, of Lang-Sutton, have inspected a charter of my grandmother, Eva, widow of Hugh Trevet, which, in her widowhood, she made to God and the church of Athelingneye in these words: "Know all present and to come that I, Eva, widow of Hugh Trevet, in my widowhood, for the salvation of my own soul, and those of Hugh Trevet and Walter de Chanton my husbands, and my sons, have given to God and the church of Athelyngneye, twelve pennies to be yearly received from the holding which Adam le King formerly held of me in the ville of Othery. Witnesses: Master William de Spaxton and others." Which gift I, William Husee hold reasonable and pleasing and do confirm it. Witnesses: John de Erleghe, Gilbert de Bere, knights; Peter de Draycot, and others.

In the Rentalia of Glastonbury Abbey made 1235–1252 under Michael de Ambresbury, it is stated that at Othery, the lady Eva de Middelsowi held one virgate and one half and twenty acres of land in dowry of the

holding of Hugh de Greinton, whose daughter she was (S.R.S. V, 23). Under the same name, she appears as tenant in a Final concord of 1236 (20 Hen. III, 213). Hugh de Greinton, her father, or perhaps great-grandfather, held half a knight's fee of the Abbey in 1166.

William Huse was party to a fine concerning lands in Sutton abbots, *i.e.*, Long-Sutton in 1304; and John de Erleghe succeeded his father Philip in 1280, and died 1324.

The Forest of Pederton.

205. Names of the knights who chose twelve knights to make perambulation of the forests of Somerset: Robert de Maundevile, Robert de Reynnes, William de Draicote, William de Kennelscombe. These were chosen: William Fitzjohn, William de Morvyle, John de Regny, John de Brues, Osbert Fitzwilliam, James Fitzgirard, Hilary de Bachampton, William de Baggedripe, Walter Fitzwilliam, Walter Tilly, Ralph de Aure, Odo de Wondestre.

In the Hundred of North Pederton the king has a park which for a long time has not been enclosed, whose limits and bounds are these: To begin with on the east side as Huntyngeya goes towards the moor, on the north side and on the west as the ditch extends from Huntyngeya even to Ebbyngbrigge.

This perambulation belongs to the reign of John, or very early in that of Henry III. The lands are those of the original royal hunting box, which gradually increased until the forest contained the territories mentioned in the next perambulation.

206. Perambulation of the forest of North-Pederton made 25th May. 26 Edw. I (1298).

Printed in Collinson III, 59.

207. I, Thomas de Cyrencestre, have given, &c. to the abbot and convent of Athelneye, two shillings of yearly rent from the tenement which Walter Pere, formerly held of me, outside the south gate of Ivelcestre. Witness: William, then dean of Ivelcestre.

Thomas de Cirencester was sheriff of the county, 1229–1239.

208. Final concord made 17 Edw. I (1299) between Andrew, abbot of the church of S. Athelwin of Athelyngneye,

petitioner, and Simon de Montacute whom (*quem*) Richard Fromond, of Taunton, called to warrant, and who warranted to him concerning 150 acres of land with its belongings in Iggeshole.

The printed copy of this Fine, S.R.S. VI, 275, makes Richard the warrantor, but this is manifestly incorrect. The abbot won his case.

209. Indenture (in French) concerning a daily mass to be celebrated at the high altar immediately after Prime on behalf of the souls mentioned below.

This Indenture made in our church of Athelney on the Monday next after the feast of S. Leonard (6 Nov.). 8 Rich. II (1384) between ourselves, Robert Hacke, the abbot, and the lady Elizabeth Blount, the lady of Kulve, Witnesseth that we do grant and bind ourselves and our successors to the said lady Elizabeth Blount, to find from the date of the making of this indenture a monk or a secular for a chaplain to say a mass from day to day, from week to week, from year to year for ever, with special collects, common and secret, for the said lady Elizabeth and for all the quick and the dead who are or who shall be named in this indenture. And the same mass shall be said in the choir in our church of Athelneye at the high altar before the Trinity, that is to say, from day to day, from week to week, and from year to year perpetually, excepting one day in the year which is called Good Friday, and in default a mass shall be said on another in restitution. For the good estate of the lady Elizabeth Blount and of the lady Alice Stafford, for the estate of brother William Aunger, Henry Rodni, the lady Mald Stafford, Robert Wrench, and for all the benefactors of the said lady Elizabeth. And further at the said mass shall be said the collects for the souls of Sir John Blount and the lady Alice, his wife, Sir Henry Domfraville, Sir Matthew de Forneaux and the lady Malde, his wife, Sir William Blount and the lady Mald his wife, Sir Thomas Fogg and the lady Mald his wife, the lady Mald la Ward, the lady Julien Talebot, the lady Elizabeth Cornwaille, Sir Brien de Cornwaille, her son, Sir Richard de Stafford, the father, Sir Richard de Stafford, the son, Robert Flete, Robert Stoketon, and of all Christians to whom the said lady Elizabeth Blount is indebted, and of all Christian benefactors of the said lady Elizabeth Blount, and for all Christian souls who are in pain in purgatory.

Sir Simon de Furnaux, lord of Kilve, died 1328; and was succeeded by his son Sir Matthew, who married Alice daughter of Sir Henry de Umfranville. The inquisition after his death was held 1359, when his daughter Elizabeth (party to the indenture) was found to be his heir. By her husband Sir John Blount, she had a daughter Alice, married to Sir Richard Stafford. This genealogical statement, extracted from Collinson i, 262, iii, 532, explains the presence of most of the names. He had a copy of the indenture which gives more particulars than are recited above, to wit, that annual obits should be kept on the days of the death of the several persons, and that in case of neglect of this agreement the lady Elizabeth Blount might distrain on the abbey lands at Clavelshay ; (i, 262).

210. Names of the kings of England after the union of the whole kingdom; how long they reigned; and where their bodies are buried.

A.D. 800. Edbriht began to reign over the whole land of England, who after 37 years and 9 months died, and was buried at Winchester.

Athelwolph, his son, reigned 20 years, and reposes at Winchester.

Athelbald, his son, reigned 5 years, and lies at Shirburn.

Athelbricht, his brother, reigned 5 years, and lies at Shirburn.

Ethelred, his brother, reigned 5 years, and lies at Wimburne.

Alfred, the King, their brother, and founder of this monastery reigned 28½ years, and was buried at Winchester in the New Monastery at Hide in the monastery of his foundation. He, first of the kings of England, was anointed by Pope Leo in the city of Rome.

Edward, his son, reigned 23 years, and lies in Winchester at Hide.

Athelstan, his son, reigned 16 years, who gave to us the manor of West-Lenge, and was buried at Malmesbury.

Edmund, his brother, reigned 6½ years, and was buried at Glastonbury.

Edred, his brother, reigned 9½ years, and lies at Winchester.

Edwin, the brother of Edmund, reigned 4 years, and lies in Winchester at Hide.

Edgar, his brother, reigned 16 years; who gave to this monastery the manor of Ilton; and he lies at Glastonbury.

St. Edward, his son, reigned 3 years, and lies at Shaftesbury.

Athelred, his brother, reigned 37 years; who gave to this monastery the manor of Hamme; and he lies in S. Paul's, London.

Edward Ironside, his son, and Cnute, the king of Denemarch, divided the kingdom of England between them. But Edmund, being killed within the year, was buried at Glastonbury.

Cnute, afterwards reigned 9 years; who gave to this monastery Sevenhampton and Hurdecote; and he was buried at Winchester.

Harold, his son, reigned 4 years and 4 months, and lies at Westminster.

Hardecnut, his brother, reigned 2 years, and lies at Winchester.

Edward, son of Ethelred, reigned 24 years, and lies at Westminster.

Harold, son of Earl Godwin, reigned nearly one year, and lies at Waltham.

A.D. 1066. William, Duke of Normandy, came into England, and near Hastings he slew King Harold, and reigned 22 years in England; and afterwards died in Normandy, and rests at Chain (Caen).

William Rufus, his son, reigned 13 years, and lies at Winchester.

Henry, his brother, reigned 35 years and 4 months, and lies at Reading.

Stephen, Count of Mortaine and Boulogne, who was the son of Theobald, Count of Blois, and nephew of King Henry through his sister Adela, reigned 19 years, and lies at Faversham.

Henry II, who was the son of Geoffrey, Count of Anjou and the Empress Matilda, daughter of Henry I, reigned 35 years; who gave to this monastery Corilade; and he lies at Fontevriand.

Richard, his son, reigned 9 years and 7 months and 9 days, and lies at Fonteverand.

John, his brother, reigned 17 years and 21 weeks, and lies at Worcester.

Henry, his son, reigned 56 years and 20 days, and lies at Westminster.

Edward, his son, reigned 34 years, and lies at Westminster.

Edward, his son, reigned 19 years and 29 weeks, and lies at Gloucester.

Edward III, his son, reigned 51 years; and A.D. 1376 (1377) xi Kal. Jul. died, and was buried at Westminster.

Immediately on the morrow succeeded Richard II, son of Edward, Prince of Wales, eldest son of Edward III, who reigned 22 years and 3 months. He sent Henry, Earl of Derby and Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Norfolk and Earl Marshall into exile because they had quarrelled. The Earl Marshall soon after died at Rhodes. But Earl Henry soon returned from exile and raised all England against King Richard while he was absent in Ireland; and on his return took him prisoner at Conway, and compelled him to renounce the kingdom. And when this had been done by the agreement of the chief lords and the community of all England, he was crowned King of England, A.D. 1399, on the festival of S. Edward, K. & C. at Westminster.

Henry IV reigned 13 years, 6 months and 20 days, and was buried at Canterbury.

Henry V, his first-born succeeded and was crowned at Westminster by Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury, 9th April, 1413.

Charter of John de Erleghe.

211. Be it known unto all present and to come that I John de Erleghe have given and conceded to Robert son of Milo for his homage and service five solidates of land in my manor of Pederton, four solidates of land in Bericton of the land which Christian de Bericton held and twelve denariates in Witecrofte which Lefric Crabbs held, rendering yearly to me and my heirs a pair of gilt spurs worth six pence for all service. In return for this gift and concession the said Robert has given to me two marcs of silver, and to my wife Sibyll a bezant, and to John my son a pair of spurs. And that this my gift may remain firm and unshaken, I have confirmed this present writing by the impression of my seal. Witnesses: Geoffrey de Erleghe, William de Erleghe, Quatus de Collega, William son of Milo, Roger the clerk, Peter de Bruer, Roger son of Ralph, and many others.

The donor was most probably John who died 1199.

212. Alfred the King of glorious memory, son of Athelwlph King of England, received the royal anointing and the crown from Pope Leo IV; was founder of the monastery of the Saviour, the Apostles Peter and Paul and the holy Athelwin confessor at

Athelneye; in the eight hundred and seventy-second year from the Incarnation of Christ, 4 indict.; he gave to his monastery aforesaid the Island in which the abbey is situated, in pure and perpetual alms, with the things belonging underwritten.

The Abbey of Athelney is situated in an island in which are contained ten acres of arable and twenty acres of meadow, and a part of the moor on the south side of the Abbey. And to it belong rights of common in Statemore (*qu.* Stanmore) as well for pasture as for fuel; for which fuel the abbot and convent have received twenty-four acres of the said moor by the name of fuel (*nomine fualiæ*); saving to them and their successors common of pasture over the whole moor for their piggery (*porcheria*) for ever. There also belongs to the said Abbey common of pasture in Saltmore, but there is no fuel there. For these rights of common abbot Roger laboured much in his time against John de Aure and Agnes his wife, and they made a mutual agreement at Shirburne in the King's Court, as appears by a cyrograph there made between them.

The cyrograph is extant, 26 Hen. III, No. 39, 1242. Agnes de Aure was a daughter and co-heir of Odo de Wandrestre and widow of Oliver Avenel.

213. Alfred King of England in the eighth year of his reign gave the manor of Long-Sutton to the monastery of Athelneye.

214. King Edgar gave the manor of Iltor with all belonging.

215. Robert de Vallibus holds one virgate of land and a wood which is called la Wrthe and Inwode.

216. And the Abbot and Convent shall have forty pigs and a boar in pannage in their wood every year. And a trunk of wood before Christmas, together with homage reliefs wardship, and all outside service. And he owes suit in the Abbot's Court for the trunk spoken of above, and he shall yearly have a better tree, one excepted, in the wood of Robert de Vallibus.

See notes on charters 29–32. The date is early 13th century.

217. The lady Cecilia de Beauchamp has found pledges, Robert de Ashford, &c. for saving her default before the date of the next Court, or that she will come to the Abbot at Athelney, and there save it, as appears in the Hock-term Court (roll) of 14 Ed. I (1286).

218. The lady Cecilia de Beauchamp, the lady of Muryfeld rendered fealty to the lord Abbot of Athelney on the morrow of SS. Tiburtius and Valerian (14 April) A.D. 1285, 13 Edw. I, in her hall at Stoke under Hameden, which was received by Roger de Sutton then cellarer of the said house, in the presence of Gilbert de Overle rector of Lemyngton and rector of the church of Stoke aforesaid, Richard Pigge, Peter de Bolonia, and others.

219. At the Court held there on the Wednesday after Fest. S. Michael 24 Ed. I (1296) the King's writ came for Cecilia de Beauchamp to appoint an attorney by her letters patent, as appears in the writ sewn to this Roll. Whose attorney we received by her letters patent when we had had it. At which Court the said lady Cecilia appointed by her letters patent William de Molendino her attorney to make suit in her place.

220. The lady Cecilia de Beauchamp puts in her place William de Molendino bailiff of Muryfeld as her attorney to make suit in the Court for her land in Muryfeld by her letters patent, as appears in the court (roll) of Hock-term 31 Edw. I (1303).

This recalcitrant lady was the widow of John Beauchamp I, who died at Hatch 24 Oct. 1283. She was the second daughter of William de Vivonia (de Fortibus) and Matilda de Kyme his wife, who to quote the words of Camden "derived descent from Sibilla, co-heiress of William Marshall, that puissant Earl of Pembroke, William de Ferrars, Earl of Derby, Hugh de Vivonia, and William Malet—men of great renown in ancient times."[1] And, what was perhaps even more to the point, she brought to her husband a share of the barony of De Fortibus. The abbot evidently had a hard struggle to get this "daughter of a hundred Earls" to acknowledge his superior position in the manor of Ilton.

[1] Barony of Beauchamp, by J. Batten, F.S.A., *Som. Arch. Proc.*, xxxvi, ii, 34.

ILTON.

221. The lord of Muryfeld holds of the Abbot and convent of Athelyngneye by military service and a yearly rent of twenty-five shillings, a messuage and watermill 80 acres of land, 12 acres of meadow, 4 acres of pasture, and 16 acres of wood, with all belonging, in Ilton, and does suit in the court of the said Abbot and convent at Ilton.

222. At the court held there on the Saturday after the festival of the Epiphany, 39 Ed. III (1366) . . . distrains Cecilia de Turberville the lady of Meryfeld to do homage and fealty to the lord (Abbot) and to answer for her default of the usual suit of court, and also to answer for her relief. And Cecilia came between the courts and did homage and fealty to the lord Abbot in his hall at Ilton in the presence of Nicholas Bolaer then steward. Nevertheless he has caused her to be distrained for default of the usual suit of court, and also to satisfy the lord for her relief.

On the death of John Beauchamp of Hatch without children in 1361, Cecilia Seymour widow his sister, and John de Meryet his nephew, son of Eleanor his deceased sister, were found to be his heirs. In the division of the property, Muryfeld fell to Cecilia, who by 1366 had remarried Sir Gilbert Turberville of Coity in Glamorgan. She died 7th June, 1394, leaving as her heir Roger Seymour son of William her eldest son deceased. On her second son Robert she settled the manor of Shepton Beauchamp, and he is the Robert referred to in No. 230.

223. At a lawful court held at Hock-term 5 Ric. II (1382), it was found that Cecilia de Turberville made suit by her attornies as it was arranged before. Among other things the bailiff was ordered to distrain on Cecilia Turberville to answer for her many defaults of the ordinary suit of court. Upon which at the next court the said Cecilia came by John Oxen her attorney, and brought forward the King's writ directing the lord's bailiff to receive her attorney to do suit in her name. Upon which she assigned by her letter patent John Oxen and John Newman either together or apart to make her suit; and so by reason of the King's writ aforesaid as well as the letter of the said Cecilia her attornies were accepted. But since then it has been found that the said Cecilia and her attornies aforesaid

have made default of the ordinary suit of court. So it is ordered that the said Cecilia be distrained to answer for her default at the next court, and so likewise for her relief for the lands and holdings which she has in Merifelde.

224. At a lawful court held in Michaelmas Term 14 Hen. IV (1412), the Tithing-man came and presented that Sir John Wadham held of the lord a watermill at Ashford, a close of wood and pasture containing 30 acres, a close of meadow containing 4 acres, in diverse closes called Puryhey, all which the said John held of the lord Abbot in his demesne as of fee by military service on the day when he died. And that he also held in his demesne a close of pasture containing 18 acres in Pilledone, 8 acres of meadow in Mowremede, and a close of land called Barleyehey, for his homage and fealty and a yearly rent of 25 shillings, and suit of court twice in the year. And since the last court he has died. And he says that William Wadham is the son and nearest heir of the said John, and is now of full age. The bailiff is therefore instructed to take the said mill and other property into the care of the lord until somebody shall come to show his right, &c.

Merifield and Wadham are inseparably connected. Sir John Wadham, Justice of the Common Pleas, must have purchased it after 1387 (see No. 226) either from Cecilia Turberville or her heirs.

225. At a lawful court held in Hocktide 12 Hen. IV (1411), the tithing-man came and presented that Sir John Lorty, who held of the lord 9 acres of meadow in Ilemore by service and a yearly rent of three pence, had died since the last court.

Sir John Lorty of Swelle and North Perrot was the last male of this ancient family, who through the female line had held those manors since Doomsday. His widow remarried William Newton; and though at her death in 1420, Alice Buckham her sister was found to be her heir, I more than suspect that Swelle was conveyed to the husband's family, for the Newtons certainly possessed it at the end of the century, and their pedigree in the Visitation of 1623 begins with a William who was probably born about 1415.

226. Cecilia Turberville the lady of Murifelde gives to the lord 12 ( ) for a fine for release of her suit of court, as appears in (the record of) a lawful court held in Michaelmas term 10 Rich. II (1386).

227. At a lawful court held in Hocktide 4 Edw. III (1330) Ralph Delington did fealty to the lord for certain holdings which he has in Ilton.

228. 19 Edw. (I?) Thomas Muttlebury a serf (*nativus*) of the Abbot of Athelney gave his son John education (*literatura*) without leave, therefore he is in mercy, and has a day appointed to make satisfaction to the lord.

229. At a lawful court held in Michaelmas term 7 Hen. IV (1405) the tithing-man presented that Cecilia Turberville, who held a certain field called Frogmere of the Abbot by a yearly rent of 13sh. 4d., had died, &c.

See note on 222.

230. At a lawful court held in Hocktide 7 Hen. IV (1406) an order was made to distrain Robert Seymour to answer for his default in suit of court, and to render homage and fealty to the lord; and at this court the homage was ordered to inquire by what services Robert Seymour holds the field called Frogmere.

231. To all faithful Christians, I William Poulet of Bere wisheth health in the Lord. Whereas I hold to myself and my heirs a virgate and a ferndel of land in Est-Hide by military service of John Brygge abbot of Athelney by the gift and feoffment of John son of heir of John Fitelton, of which land the said abbot had the custody during the minority of the said John. Know all men that for those lands I have done homage to the said Abbot at Rode in the Hundred of North Pederton in the presence of Thomas Uffeculme Prior of Tanton, John Warre Esq., Thomas Trowe, and William Poulet of Melcombe; 3 Hen. V (1415).

232. Royal writ because religious men are under no obligation to come to a Hundred court.

Henry (VI) D.G., &c., to the bailiffs of Richard Earl of Salisbury in Somerton. Since it has been ordered by the common council of our kingdom that religious men shall not be obliged to come to any Hundred court unless their presence is

required for some special reason; we command you not to distrain the Abbot of Athelney to come to your lord's court at Somerton against the form of the said order. And you are to release any distraint made on this account. Witness myself at Westminster 26 Oct., anno regni 24, (1445).

This Earl of Salisbury was a Neville who married Alice daughter and heir of Thomas Montacute Earl of Salisbury, and by her was father of the king-maker.

233. Office of the escheator concerning lands in Puttney, Knolle, and Benham.

Inquisition taken at Lamport on Saturday (—) 1 Hen. VI (1423) before William Carent the king's escheator by a jury, who say upon their oath that Elizabeth late the wife of John Andrew, Esq. named in the writ held of the King in capite by the service of a fourth part of a knight's fee, the manor of Putteneye-Lorty with the advowson of the church; in which manor are rents of assize worth 7 pounds 3 shillings, and a Hundred worth yearly beyond deductions 5 shillings. And the advowson is worth nothing yearly. And the jury say further that the said Elizabeth also held the manor of Knolle in which are rents of assize worth 6 pounds, and the residue of the said manor is worth beyond deductions 4 pounds; and the said manor of Knolle with Benham is held of the abbot of Athelney by military service. And they say that the said Elizabeth had no other lands or holdings in the said county, and that she died on the eighth day of December last past; and that Roger Gunter, Esq., is the son and nearest heir of the said Elizabeth and is 40 years old and more.

For Pitney and its successive owners, see "Family of De Urtiaco" in *Som. Arch. Proc.* XLII, ii, 26.

234. The homage of Henry de Urtiaco.

Be it known to all men by those presents that I Henry de Urtiaco knight, lord of Knolle have performed my homage to the lord abbot Osmund D.G. abbot of Athelneye for the manor of Knolle which I hold of him by the rent of 11 shillings and 4 pence. Given at Lang-Sutton 14 Edw. II (1320–1).

235. This Indenture made at Athelney 10th May 2 Hen. VI (1424), between John Brigge Abbot of Athelney on the one part, and Roger Gunter Esq., lord of Putteney-Lorty and Knolle, on the other part, witnesseth that the said Roger has done homage for the manor of Knolle and Benham on the tenth day of May aforesaid. And the said Roger hath also paid to the said Abbot 20 shillings for the fifth part of one knight's fee as his relief for the said manor. Witnesses: William Paulet of Melcomb, John Poulet lord of Nony, John Benet rector of the church of Putteneye, John Maunsel, John Irelond, and others.

236. Discharge of the Abbot of Athelneye and his tenants from liability to scour and repair the ditches and roads in Benham.

An Inquisition was taken at Somerton before Alexander Hody, steward of Richard Earl of Salisbury, at a lawful Hundred (court) held in Michaelmas term 22 Hen. VI (1443) by the oath of twelve jurors; who say that the road called Harneys Way at Wiggemore has sunk down into a great danger for want of scouring of the ditches there, which the Abbot of Athelney and his tenants at Benham are bound to scour and mend. Whereupon at the lawful court held at Hocktide the free jurors of the Hundred say upon their oath that neither the Abbot nor any of his tenants at Benham are bound to scour any ditch or mend any road. Therefore the proceedings against them are to cease.

237. Edward Stradling, sheriff of Somerset, 4 Hen. VI (1426).

238. This is a copy of the great Charter of the Forests granted by Henry III, which, as it has no local details, has been omitted.

239. Composition between the Dean and Chapter of Wells, and the Abbot and Convent of Athelney.

This Indenture made on the Vigil of All Saints 1427, 6 Hen. VI. Between John Foreste the Dean and the Chapter of Wells, lords of the manor and hundred of North Cory and rectors and proprietors of the parish church there, on the one

part, and John abbot of the monastery of S. Saviour of Athelneye on the other part, Witnesseth that whereas many and diverse suits and debates have arisen between the said parties concerning a suit or suits to be yearly rendered in their own persons by the abbot and his predecessors to the lawful Courts, Hundreds and Halmotes of North Cory, and concerning a fishery in a separate water or river called Tone of the said Dean and Chapter, and concerning a weir in the said water or river between a copse of the said Abbot and a moor of the said Dean and Chapter called Stathmore, and also concerning a certain bridge over a ditch of the said Abbot between their close under their court at West-Lenge and a moor of the said Dean and Chapter called Corymore at the end of the path (*Venella*) which goes down and extends towards the south straight (*linealiter*) from the court of West-Lenge to the ditch aforesaid, claimed by the said Abbot and convent and their predecessors lately, for a long time, both since and beyond the time of memory, unjustly as it is asserted on the part of the Dean and Chapter; also concerning exemption from payment and discharge of the tithes arising from nine acres of meadow in the parish of North Cory belonging to the said Abbot and Convent, whereof six acres lie in three closes between the water of Tone and Corylodes hill, and one acre and a half lie in the meadow called Prountismede, and one acre and a half lie in the meadow (called) Brodemede, which exemption the said Abbot and Convent and their predecessors from time beyond memory (as is asserted on their behalf) have had without hindrance until these questions were moved and remain. Concerning all and singular these suits and debates a peace by the grace of God has been made for ever in this manner; Namely that the said Dean and Chapter considering that the said Abbot is for the time a canon and fellow of the said Cathedral church of Wells will and concede for themselves and their successors that the said Abbot and all his successors Abbots of the same place shall be for ever released and quit from the suit or suits at the courts hundreds and hallmotes, as well as from the payment of the tithes aforesaid. And the said Dean and Chapter wholly release and remit all their right and claim to the Abbot and Convent; Saving always all their rights to other tithes, and other rights coming under that title, arising from the lands of the said Abbot within the bounds and confines of the parish of

North-Cory, and the suits of all tenants of the said Abbot resident within the Hundred, and all other rights belonging to the manor hundred lordship and rectory for ever without any gainsaying or contradiction on the part of the said Abbot and his convent, or their tenants.

Further the Dean and Chapter concede for themselves and their successors that the said Abbot and convent shall have a bridge four feet wide to be made and kept up at their own cost over and beyond the said ditch at the end of the road (*venella*) only for the animals of the said Abbot, except pigs, going and returning from the said moor. Nevertheless so that the said Abbot and convent shall cause to be made and kept up continually a gate or barrier sufficient for the safe keeping and guarding of other beasts in the said moor so that they shall not leave or enter over the said bridge. Provided that if any other animals of the said Abbot or his pigs are allowed to leave or enter the said moor of Corymore by the bridge, so that either the Dean and Chapter or their tenants are injured thereby, the Abbot and Convent agree and concede that within a month after such damage has been reported full and sufficient satisfaction shall be made according to the judgement and reckoning of the then steward of the Dean and Chapter. Also the said Abbot and Convent give up release and quitclaim all the right which they have or claim to have in the said weir and fishery in the water or river of Tone for ever. For a testimony the Dean and Chapter in their chapter-house at Wells have set their common seal to that part of this Indenture to remain with the said Abbot and Convent; and to the other part to remain with the Dean and Chapter the Abbot and Convent have set their common seal in their chapter-house at Athelney, the day and year aforesaid.

240. Henry D.G. King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Acquitaine, Count of Anjou, to the knights free men and all others holding of the Abbot of Athelyngneye, salutation. Know ye that we have committed to the venerable father John Bishop of Bath the Abbey of Athelyngneye, vacant and in our hand, to guard as long as we think fit. And we therefore command you that you submit and answer to him as long as he is guardian in all things which belong to the said Abbey. In testimony of which we send you these our letters

patent. Witness myself at Westminster 22nd March, anno regni nostri 11.

The assumption of the title "Lord of Ireland" shows that the monarch is Henry III; and the date of the vacancy is 1227. In the same year on the 6th of May the royal assent was given to the election of Roger lately the prior. John is a slip for Joceline.

241. Osmund Regny abbot of Athelingneye in the time of King Henry son of King John.

There are no particulars in the transcript. This abbot has not hitherto been found in any record that I have come across. As mentioned in the note to 240 Roger succeeded in 1227, his predecessor being most probably Benedict who occurs as Abbot 1225. The last reference to Roger is in 1242. In 1245 Robert was elected (Pat. Roll. 29 Hen. III, m. 3), and he is found at intervals down to 1263. In 1267 Richard de Derham was appointed who lived into the reign of Edward I. Place for Osmund de Regny can be found *c.* 1265; and when the Patent Rolls for the reign of Henry III are printed, the point will most probably be cleared up.

242. William Carent sheriff of Dorset, 13 Hen. IV.

243. John Pederton abbot of Athelyngneye 15 Hen. VI. Also in the 31st and 34th years, *vide* many documents not given in the transcript.

244. Know all present and to come that I Henry de la More have given &c. to Hugh Le Lyff for his homage and service all those crofts at la More with the ditches and hedges and with belonging thereto, which are called Bradecrofte and Northmansland, Wowdon, Bythenlond. Witnesses: Robert Fychet, William Testard, William Fychet, and many others.

245. I, Henry de la More, have conceded and assigned to the Abbot of Athelyngneye and the Convent there all the rent and service due from Hugh le Lyff, his heirs or assigns for the lands and tenements which he at one time held of me at la More and Brodlake, &c.

246. (French.) This Indenture witnesseth that whereas there has been a great debate between the Abbot of Athelneye and Richard Lyf because the said Abbot claims the holdings of the said Richard in la More Blakmore and Hull to be in the

Tithing of Adescombe, and to be contributary with the other tenants of the Abbot in the said Tithing to the Fifteenths taillages and other charges; In hope of a good agreement from this time both parties have agreed to submit themselves to the judgement of four valiant gentlemen or five gentlemen, that is to say, of Baldwin Malet, Walter Bluet, Richard Clyvedon, Matthew Michell, and John Verney of Bridgewater, on such day as the said Baldwin shall assign, seven days after the fest. S. John Bapt. Written at Bridgewater 13 Ric. II (1389).

For Adescombe see Nos. 78 *seq.* and notes.

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